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## Kuwaitis can protect nation, says Gen. Ghanem

KUWAIT, Dec. 17 (AP) — Kuwait's air defense network is capable of protecting the oil producing country from all directions, Gen. Abdullah Fallaj Ghanem, the new armed forces chief of staff was quoted as saying Wednesday.

The airforce has orders to intercept any aircraft violating Kuwaiti airspace "or even outside our borders to protect our airspace from all directions," Gen. Ghanem was quoted as saying in an interview published by several local newspapers.

Last month Iranian jets bombed Kuwait's Al-Abdali border post, on the Kuwait-Iraq border. The raid caused neither damage nor casualties but Kuwait protested strongly to Iran about the incident.

Gen. Ghanem took over as chief of staff last week, replacing Gen. Muhiyeddin Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

The general was quoted as saying he is in favor of the establishment of a common military command by the Gulf states, but this was something to be decided by the political leaders, he added. "The Gulf states are capable of defending themselves and their interests," he was quoted as saying.

Gen. Ghanem was quoted as revealing that the Gulf states cooperate in their weapon purchasing programs "so that each state can receive help from the others, if it faces a shortage of spare parts or other equipment."

## PIA stops liquor

ISLAMABAD, Dec. 17 (AP) — The government has ordered Pakistan International Airlines to stop serving liquor on overseas flights from Jan. 1, 1981, in keeping with its effort to Islamize the country's institutions, and airline spokesman said Wednesday.

"Naturally, it's going to have an impact commercially," said public relations manager Ahsan Paul. He said PIA was notified the ban 10 days ago. Alcohol has not been served on domestic flights.

From the beginning of the year, PIA will join the Saudi Arabian and Kuwaiti national airlines in observing the Islamic prohibition against liquor, he said. PIA, 90 per cent state-owned, turned a 73.1 million rupee (about \$7.5 million) profit in the 1979-80 accounting year ending last June, Paul added.

## Arab agricultural committee set up

DAMASCUS, Dec. 17 (R) — The Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD) has announced it had set up a special committee to work out a joint strategy on Arab food self-sufficiency.

In a statement issued here Tuesday at the end of a three-day AOAD meeting, the agriculture ministers of the 21-member Arab League said the committee would meet in Tripoli, Libya, next March. They did not say who its members would be. The ministers said they would hold their next full meeting in Baghdad a year from now.

"They are among the most miserable refugees I have ever seen," Sudanese Refugee Commissioner Abdul Rahman Bashir said of the Ugandans. "They are carrying nothing with them at all." Bashir pointed to photographs of small children with distended stomachs, wearing only breechcloths or nothing at all. With the children were emaciated women, naked from the waist up.



**MEDIATION:** Jordanian military reserves, called up to reinforce regular troops during the tense border confrontation with Syria, were released from active duty Tuesday. The border crisis, which started Nov. 20 when Syria moved three armored divisions to the border, was defused after mediation by King Khaled who sent Second Deputy Premier and Commander of the National Guard Prince Abdullah to Amman and Damascus. Syria on Sunday completed a withdrawal of the estimated 50,000 troops and 1,200 tanks it had moved to the Syrian-Jordanian border. Jordan also pulled back troops which had totalled about 30,000 at the peak of the confrontation.

## Lebanon seeks end to Israeli occupation

BEIRUT, Dec. 17 (R) — Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq Al-Wazzan said his government would use all possible methods to end Israeli occupation of part of South Lebanon. Wazzan, a prominent Muslim lawyer, did not mention what action he envisaged. But Lebanon has asked the United Nations to strengthen its forces in the area.

"The prime minister was presenting his government's statement of policy to the Lebanese single-house parliament, the chamber of deputies, before a vote of confidence in the new administration formed in October."

Wazzan said he was determined to re-establish Lebanese sovereignty over the whole country, including a southern border strip which he said was under Israeli occupation. The 10-kilometer wide belt of territory is held by Israeli-backed militiamen and Israeli troops have free access to the area.

The U.N. General Assembly has called for the Lebanese state to be allowed to establish its authority up to the border with Israel, but a 6,000-strong U.N. peace-keeping force has been unable to move into the whole of its mandated territory.

The international force was stationed in South Lebanon after an Israeli invasion of the area in 1978.

Wazzan was appointed prime minister by President Elias Sarkis after moves to form a government of national unity in Lebanon failed several months ago. In October he formed a 22-man cabinet, but a minister of state resigned immediately. Early this month four Shiite Muslim ministers offered to resign in a dispute over Shiite representation in the cabinet, but President Sarkis did not accept the resignations.

## Pro-Israelis lobby 'to put Percy on ice'

By Bob Lebling  
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 — Pro-Israeli advisers to President-elect Reagan are seeking ways to "put Senator Charles Percy permanently on ice" for his recent remarks in support of a Palestinian state, according to reports here.

These advisers regard Percy as major threat to Israel's interests in his new job as chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee in the 97th Congress. "The Jewish Week" newspaper of Washington, D.C., quoted informed sources as saying Zionists in the Reagan camp were trying to persuade Reagan to offer Percy a "harmless" post in the new administration to remove him from the influential committee chairmanship.

"They may get rid of him by giving him an ambassadorship somewhere, or making him undersecretary of something," one source was quoted as saying. The source described as "inexcusable" Percy's remarks on Palestinian statehood, which were made during the senator's recent talks in Moscow with Kremlin leaders.

Percy's comments, contained in a highly classified state department cable, were leaked to the press by pro-Israeli members of the Reagan transition team, sources said.

"Percy is going to be slapped down, make no mistake about that," the newspaper quoted a source as saying. The Illinois Republican would not be publicly humiliated, however, according to this strategy. He would instead be "kicked upstairs" into a non-controversial job in the Reagan administration, the paper said.

But analysts here pointed out Reagan has not decided to take any action regarding Percy. The president-elect is expected to consider removal from the Senate post.

Meanwhile, supporters of Israel enthusiastically welcomed the selection of Senator Rudy Boschwitz of Minnesota as chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee's Middle East subcommittee.

Boschwitz, a Berlin-born Jew has been described in press accounts here as a strong supporter of Israel.

He was named to head the key Middle East panel last Thursday. Boschwitz has very little foreign affairs experience and is a newcomer to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. According to one news report this week, Boschwitz "will probably emerge as the leading pro-Israel spokesman among the six Jews who will serve in the 97th Senate."

But political observers noted that his authority as subcommittee chairman will be somewhat tempered by the fact that Senator Percy, chairman of the full committee, has also decided to serve as a member of the Middle East subcommittee.

Percy met with a dozen leaders of the local Jewish United Fund in an effort to clarify reports of his remarks while in the Soviet Union recently.

Afterwards, one Jewish leader pronounced Percy's comments "to a large degree reassuring."

"(I) say that we will never deal with the Palestinians, and the PLO on this issue until such time as they recognize Israel as a sovereign state... the right of Israel to have defensible borders and the right of Israel to live in peace," Percy told reporters after the meeting.



**IN MANILA:** Dr. Fayer Badr, President of the Saudi Arabian Ports Authority and a minister of state (left) is welcomed by Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Jose Ingles upon arrival Wednesday in Manila. Dr. Badr is on a six-day visit to confer with Philippine port authorities. In a brief press conference he said he hoped he could conclude a technical agreement between the Philippine Ports Authority and the Saudi Arabian ports agency. He will also talk to top officials of various stevedoring firms who have sent Filipino port personnel to Saudi Arabia. The minister arrived as President Ferdinand Marcos' wife Imelda prepares to leave New York for Saudi Arabia to follow up the renewal of the Philippine oil contract there.

## Egypt welcomes Haig as secretary of state

ISMAILIA, Egypt, Dec. 17 (AP) — Egypt's foreign minister on Wednesday said the nomination of Alexander M. Haig as U.S. secretary of state would have a "good effect on military and political cooperation" between Washington and its strongest Arab ally.

"The presence of such a man, the former head of NATO and now a foreign minister, a man with experience in strategy and foreign policy, will make the Middle East the center of interest in U.S. foreign policy," said Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali.

The Egyptian said he sent Haig a cable of congratulations. Egypt is optimistic about the choice, Ali said. Haig's nomination Tuesday by President-elect Ronald Reagan must be approved by the Senate, and this is considered likely. Technically, though, Haig is not a foreign minister yet.

Ali, who served as Egypt's defense minister until taking the foreign minister's job last May, is a military man like Haig. The American is expected to take a firm hand in dealing with the Soviet Union, which until 1972 maintained 17,000 military advisers in Egypt.

In a Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) spokesman said Tuesday that Haig's nomination would not alter America's policy of "interfering in the affairs of other states."

## 11 Airbus for Saudia

By a Staff Writer  
JEDDAH, Dec. 17 — Saudia, has signed its first agreement with European manufacturers to buy eleven medium-range aircraft from Airbus Industrie, company spokesman said here Wednesday. He said the agreement was signed in Jeddah Tuesday.

Saudia will be the fourth Arab company to purchase European planes after Middle East Airlines and Kuwait Airways who bought five and six aircraft respectively since last month. Egypt had also bought three Airbus.

The spokesman said that delivery of the first Airbus will start in 1983. He added that the aircraft will have a capacity of 262 economy seats and 26 first class. They will be used on domestic and regional flights.

The spokesman praised the Airbus for their "high performance, comfort and good service." He added that with the delivery of the aircraft Saudia will terminate a lease for three jumbos with Middle East Airlines in 1976. Saudia had also ordered this year ten jumbo Boeing 747s and the first order of six will be delivered in 1981, and the remaining in 1982. The new aircraft will raise the total number of the state-run airline corporation to 82, and the company expects to carry about seven million passengers next year.

## Stop oil stockpile Yamani urges Western nations to review policy

ZURICH, Dec. 17 (AP) — Oil Minister Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani was quoted Wednesday as saying that oil prices of \$30 per barrel by next spring are "not at all excluded" unless the West reviews its stockpile policy.

In an interview with the Zurich weekly *Weltwoche* shortly before this week's OPEC meeting in Bali, Sheikh Yamani was quoted as predicting a "mood of panic" on markets if the Gulf war between Iraq and Iran lasted "much longer."

The minister reportedly said the recent increase of the United States strategic oil reserves, France's decision against reduction of its stockpiles and Japan's policy of increasing its floating reserves "are not good omens."

He was quoted as explaining that this policy resulted in buying pressure on the speculative spot markets leading to soaring spot prices and eventually also pushing up regular OPEC contract prices. "If this trend (the Western stockpiling policy) is not stopped, then they (the West) will have to pay for it. Then there will be considerable price increases. That I promise you," he was quoted as saying.

Asked whether this could mean prices of \$50 per barrel by next spring, Yamani said: "That is not all excluded. If the Gulf war continues much longer, a mood of panic will develop on the markets and unless the Western governments react reasonably, you will have that price already soon."

Yamani also made the following points, according to the *Weltwoche*:

— Access to Western stock markets for investors from oil producing countries should be "as unhindered as possible... without too many national protective measures, without discriminatory tax barriers." This would facilitate the decision to continue to exploit our shrinking oil reserves at the present high level.

— "Unless the Arab-Israeli conflict is solved... the flow of oil from our countries will shrink suddenly and drastically... That shock will come, even if you continue not to believe it. We will deal that blow to you, I promise that. But we still do hope that you will be intelligent enough not to let things drift that far."

— The European-Arab dialogue including the Palestine Liberation Organization "is nothing, nothing at all" in the way of solving the Middle East problem. "Who just takes one step where thousand steps are needed, does not do anything. Europe talks much, shows good intentions but that does not suffice."

— A solution of the Middle East question "is not possible without the Soviet Union" but the "Soviets have never made a positive contribution in the field of Third World and energy problems." The Soviet satellites — not the Soviets — will become a principal importer of Middle East oil in the mid-1980s and one cannot refuse them that supply.

Meanwhile, Sheikh Yamani arrived in Perth Tuesday night for an overnight stopover before flying on to Canberra Wednesday for talks with senior government ministers.

## 30,000 Ugandan refugees strain Sudan economy

By Alexander G. Higgins  
KHARTOUM, Dec. 17 (AP) — A new wave of 30,000 Ugandan refugees, many of them naked and starving women and children, is severely straining a Sudanese economy already struggling with half a million homeless Africans from neighboring countries.

"They are among the most miserable refugees I have ever seen," Sudanese Refugee Commissioner Abdul Rahman Bashir said of the Ugandans. "They are carrying nothing with them at all." Bashir pointed to photographs of small children with distended stomachs, wearing only breechcloths or nothing at all. With the children were emaciated women, naked from the waist up.

The new refugees came to an area where there is no surplus of food, Bashir said. "Southern Sudan is suffering from scarcity of food, and there are logistical problems of transportation... I would prefer to get 50,000 refugees in eastern Sudan rather than 5,000 in the south."

Sudan, also cares for refugees from Ethiopia, Zaire and Chad. "Sudan is unlucky because it is surrounded by eight countries, many of which are among the world's least stable," said a Western diplomat. "The Sudanese are nice, so the refugees keep coming."

Bashir said the country's refugee problem began in 1965, when 9,000 Congolese fled fighting in what is now Zaire. An estimated 5,000 of them remain. In 1967 some 30,000 Eritreans fled fighting between rebels and the government in northern Ethiopia. The Eritreans living inside Sudan now under 370,000, Bashir said.

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## Cyclists endanger motorists

JEDDAH, Dec. 17 — One of the difficulties facing the local Traffic Department is irresponsible motorcycle driving, that causes about 70 per cent of the traffic accidents, according to one traffic official.

Capt. Abdullah Al-Ragban, head of the traffic division, said about 80 per cent of the motorcycle drivers cannot drive properly. They are the major cause in the loss of their lives, as well as others' lives, he said.

Most of the motorcycle drivers are under age, he told *Al-Bilad* Wednesday. The Traffic law prohibits people under 18 years of age from driving motorcycles to avoid hazards to themselves and others. Capt. Ragban urged parents not to let



**BIKE COLLECTION:** Confiscated motorcycles fill a Traffic Department yard. Owners are able to retrieve their bikes only after producing legal documents.

their children drive motorcycles. Motorists should obtain driving licenses and registration plates to save themselves punishment, he said.

The traffic department confiscates an average of 150 bikes every day, Ragban said. Registration plates and licenses are issued by the traffic department, which facilitates the procedures. Not wearing a safety helmet is one action that contradicts

traffic laws, Capt. Ragban said. The department promotes all measures to ensure the safety of motorcycle drivers and other motorists, he said. Irresponsible drivers face severe penalties because they endanger their own lives in addition to other motorists. As a result it is compulsory that motorcycle drivers wear the safety helmet just to protect themselves in case of an accident, he added.

### Saudi Telephone reports

## Long distance numbers become zone codes

RIYADH, Dec. 17 — The long distance dialing code "50" will be discontinued and will become part of zone code "01" (Riyadh district) on 12 Safar 1401 (19 December, 1980) Saudi Telephone's central Region Manager Muhammad Sadik Ibrahim announced in a report Wednesday.

This means that long distance calls to sub-

scribers in Afif, Dawadmi, Durma, AlKharij, Layla, Mazhimiyyah, Marat, Sulayil, Rimah, Sajir and Shaqra should be made by dialing "01" then the local telephone number, the report added.

The zone code "05" will no longer be used. Calls placed within the same town or city do not require a zone code — only the local telephone number need be dialed, the Saudi Telephone manager said.

The conversion of zone code "50" to "01" is possible due to the introduction of sophisticated exchange equipment to the Saudi Telephone network and the completion of the five to seven-digit telephone number conversion program in Riyadh. The conversion is part of Saudi Telephone's program to simplify dialing requirements in the Kingdom and provide

the best possible service to subscribers, according to the press statement.

On 12 Safar 1401 (19 December, 1980) The Kingdom's zone codes will be: 01 — Riyadh and surrounding area, 02 — Mecca, Jeddah Taif and surrounding area, 03 — the Eastern Province (including Dammam, Dhahran, Al Khobar and Hofuf), 04 — Northern Frontier, Al Jouf, Qurayyat, Tabuk, Medina and surrounding area, 06 — Hail, Qasim and surrounding area, 07 — Najran, Jizan, Asir, AlBaha and surrounding areas. For specific cities, towns and villages, subscribers should consult the introductory pages of their telephone directory, Muhammad Ibrahim added.

## Yemenia begins new London route

JEDDAH, Dec. 17 — An advanced Boeing 727-200 will leave Sana'a Friday to begin a new weekly route to London, according to a Yemenia press statement. Yemenia is a joint venture between Yemen Airways and Saudia.

The new flight connection from Sana'a to Gatwick Airport will provide an immediate connection for the United States, Canada and Northern Europe, the Yemenia statement said.

This trip represents yet another milestone in Yemenia's development plans. In 1979 it upgraded its fleet with new Boeing 727 — 200s. In mid-1980 it opened its new multi-

## Health group to coordinate projects

DAMMAM, Dec. 17 (SPA) — The Eastern Province Environment Health Committee met here Wednesday under Abdul Rahman Al-Shuhail, director general of municipal and rural affairs in the region.

The committee members discussed coordinating sewage and drainage projects in the Qatif Region carried out by the committee, and a project awarded by the Ministry of

## Officials delay Rabat meeting

JEDDAH, Dec. 17 — A meeting of the Jerusalem Committee to have been held in Rabat, 18-19, has been postponed to Dec. 22, officials disclosed Wednesday. Prince Saud Al-Faisal, who leads the Kingdom's delegation, will be visiting Italy on Friday and from there he will fly to Morocco.

The 15-member committee was established by the Organization of the Islamic Conference in 1975 to follow the implementation of resolutions calling for the liberation of the holy city from the Zionist grip. It is headed by King Hassan II of Morocco.

## Mosque council issues rulings

BRUSSELS, Dec. 17 (SPA) — The Continental Council of Mosques Tuesday expressed its gratitude to Saudi Arabia for a \$1 million donation to help the council renovate mosques in Europe. The council's constituent assembly ended a meeting here Tuesday, which issued a set of recommendations including one calling for "the restoration of some mosques to the purpose for which they had originally been built."

million dollar headquarters and aircraft facility. This month it will introduce new De Havilland Dash-7s for its domestic routes. The new route to London, together with the other routes to Addis Ababa and Bombay — also opened this year, gives the Yemen Arab Republic access to 22 major cities in Europe, the Middle East, the Gulf, Asia and Africa.

Yemen, with its rich history and culture, temperate climate and breathtakingly beautiful scenery has all the attributes to make it a developing area for Western tourists and holiday-makers. Not only that, Yemenia's progress is itself a mirror image of the great advances being made in the YAR's development as a country.

### In sewage and drainage

Municipal and Rural Affairs. During the meeting the committee discussed how to attain the most benefit from the projects underway and extending its operations to other areas with no sewage networks.

The meeting also covered a complaint by the residents of northern Dammam on the sea water flooding their houses during high tide periods. The discussion revealed that the Eastern Province committee project, for which a tender will be issued soon, will solve the problems. In addition, the committee discussed other issues related to a water and sewage department project. The director general of the department attended the meeting during which the Khuraji and Muabid project, carried out by the environment health committee, was discussed.

At the end of the meeting, an agreement was reached between the committee and the water and sewage department, that the new Dammam slaughterhouse be linked to the sewerage lines of the department.

Meanwhile, the Eastern Province Education Directorate General allocated SR3.3 million for several educational projects in Hasa during the current academic year.

Dr. Said Atiyya Abu Ali, education director general in the Eastern Province, said the projects involve fencing 15 schools, maintaining and operating electricity for three schools, building a sports field and a running track, and cleaning and maintaining several schools.

## JEDDAH INTERNATIONAL MARKET



To keep up with the development and growth of Jeddah, a shopping Mall is presently under construction in the northern part of the city.

The site is located on Medina Road 7 Kilometres north of Jeddah with direct connection to the new international airport. The up-to-date design of the market allows space modulation. The market has been designed implementing the very latest techniques available. It consists of one large supermarket and 175 shops, all centrally airconditioned. The commercial aspect is supported by fine and aesthetically pleasing architecture. Parking space for 1400 cars. These features will undoubtedly ensure that the JIM (Jeddah International Market) will become the town's leading attraction.

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Dhuhr	12.17	12.18	11.50
Assr	3.22	3.17	2.48
Maghrib	5.43	5.38	5.09
Isha	7.13	7.08	6.39

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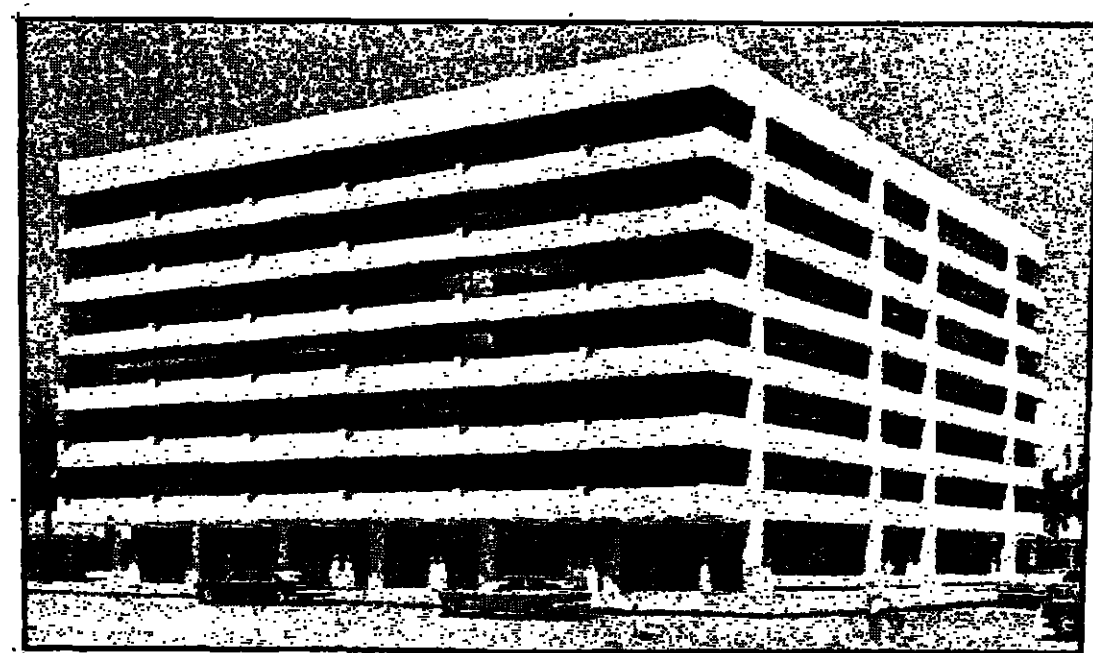


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## To Queen Elizabeth II

## Kingdom's ambassador presents credentials

LONDON, Dec. 17 (SPA) — Sheikh Nasser Al-Manqoor, presented his credentials Tuesday to Queen Elizabeth II as Saudi Arabia's new ambassador to Britain. During the meeting Sheikh Al-Manqoor expressed optimism about the future to Saudi-British relations. Ties had been undermined several months ago by the screening in Britain of "Death of a Princess," a slanderous film to

Islam and Saudi Arabia.

Relations were back to normal, Manqoor said, especially after the visit of Foreign Minister Lord Carrington and State Minister Douglas Hurd. "The two countries have turned a new leaf in their deep-rooted relations," he added. He said he hoped that Britain would do its utmost within the European Economic Community to help find a just and

satisfactory solution to the Palestinian problem. He also expressed optimism about the future of the Euro-Arab dialogue, hoping that it would yield results to the Arabs' problems.

Addressing newsmen after the ceremony at Buckingham Palace, Sheikh Nasser urged the Arab media to unmask the Zionist campaigns aimed at distorting the image of Islam and the Arabs. They should do so through a calm dialogue and by presenting objective evidence, the ambassador recommended.

The traditional ceremony was attended by some members of the Saudi Arabian embassy staff, including Charge d'Affaires Naji Mufli. It was also attended by high British honorary and protocol men.

Sheikh Manqoor said the United Kingdom plays a major role in supporting Arab and Islamic causes. Queen Elizabeth in a statement on the occasion hailed Saudi Arabia's position in international circles and praised the strong bilateral relations between the two countries. The ambassador rode the traditional royal coach to Buckingham Palace.

## Sultan visits military college

RIYADH, Dec. 17 (SPA) — Defense Minister Prince Sultan visited the new buildings and facilities at King Abdul Aziz military college at Iniyysa and inspected the work that has been accomplished so far.

He was met on arrival by General Muhammad Al-Hamid, chief of staff and a

number of senior aides. He was pleased with the work, he said, and proud of both the facilities and the training that is being offered to the cadets. "This academy has a special place in our hearts," he said. The building combines functional design with Islamic and Arabic characteristics which follow the pattern of all the ministry's structures.

## BRIEFS

## Expatriate insurance law

RIYADH, Dec. 17 — The Minister of Labor and Social Welfare has exempted expatriate workers from the social insurance regulations if their service and stay in the Kingdom does not exceed one year. Temporary workers have been defined as those brought in on assignment for less than a year.

## Plants donated

JEDDAH, Dec. 17 — Jordan has donated 50,000 nursery plants to Jeddah municipality as a contribution to the campaign to make the city a greener place.

## Research Center planned

QURAYAT, Dec. 17 — A new research center for agriculture and animal husbandry will be set up in this northern town in collaboration with the Food and Agricultural Organization, according to Abdullah Al-Nakhli, director general of agriculture and water in the Northern Region.

## Youth house to open

RIYADH, Dec. 17 — Riyadh Governor Prince Salman will open a new youth house here next week. The function will be attended by Prince Faisal bin Fahd, president of youth welfare and other senior officials.

## Koran institute budget increase

JEDDAH, Dec. 17 — Sheikh Muhammad Ali Al-Harkan, the secretary general of the Mecca-based Muslim World League, agreed Tuesday to double the budget of the Koranic Studies Institute in Mauritania, according to Dr. Abdul Sabour Marzooq, the league's director general.

## Educators to visit

RIYADH, Dec. 17 — A delegation of Qatari educators will visit here next week for talks with Saudi Arabian colleagues about education in the two countries.

## Museum opening scheduled

RIYADH, Dec. 17 — Several museums will be opened and equipped in various parts of the country in the near future according to official sources of the department of antiquities here.

## Jeddah Airport opening

JEDDAH, Dec. 17 — The new King Abdul Aziz International Airport in Jeddah will be dedicated within four months, Sheikh Nasser Al-Assaf, the head of the Civil Aviation Board said Wednesday. The present airport, which is in the center of the city, will then be handed over to Jeddah municipality.

## King receives ambassadors

RIYADH, Dec. 17 (SPA) — Six new ambassadors submitted credentials to King Khaled Tuesday at his palace in Riyadh. The envoys include Portuguese Ambassador Pedro Alvez, New Zealand Ambassador James Weir, Bahraini Ambassador Ibrahim Ali Ibrahim, Belgian Ambassador Jacques Melsens, the Burundi ambassador and the Mauritius ambassador.



CREDENTIALS: King Khaled receives the credentials from New Zealand's Ambassador James Weir.



Jacques Melsens



VISITING: Portuguese Ambassador Pedro Alvez holds a conversation with the King upon presenting his credentials.

## COMMENT

By Muhammad Omar Al-Amoudi  
Al Medina

Mecca always has been known for its houses of scholarly pursuits. Its biggest house of learning, the Holy Haram, produced a large number of ulama who, in different ages, contributed in the development and growth of Arabic, jurisprudence, judiciary and the interpretation of the Holy Koran.

The Holy city also earned a good name in producing women scholars. A search into history reveals that the Meccan family of Al-Tabari had produced a large number of men and women scholars between the sixth and the 12th centuries of the Islamic calendar. The great writer, Abdul Quddous Al-Ansari, says that women scholars/translators of this particular family exceeded the ulama of their time, and were frequently pursued by the ulama and students for lessons in Arabic,

Islamic studies and the Traditions of the Holy Prophet.

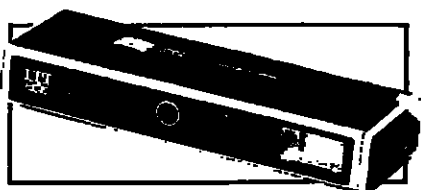
But Mecca does no longer hold that position from the aspect of knowledge. It has, regrettably, lost that old phenomenon which used to dominate the life of our predecessors. Barring a few families which still have maintained the old tradition of knowledge with utmost care, today we find a great dearth of the houses of learning for which Mecca had been known through the ages.

But for the paucity of space, I'd would have loved to mention the names of the institutions which had earned reputation for knowledge and scholars through different ages in Mecca, Medina, Jeddah and Taif. Since the present generation has been gripped with a wave of modern studies, we no longer come across such people who continue the march on the old track, nor even those who could encourage them to follow the steps of their ancestors.

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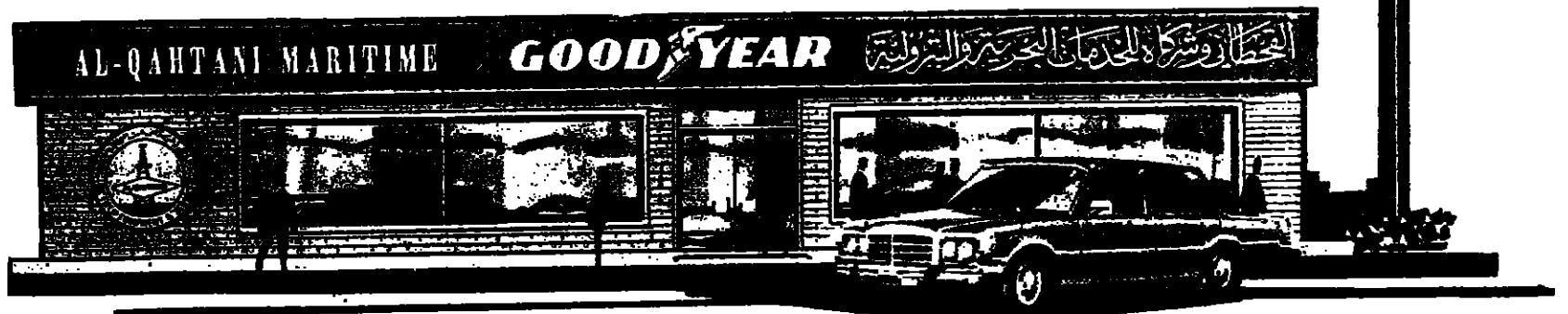
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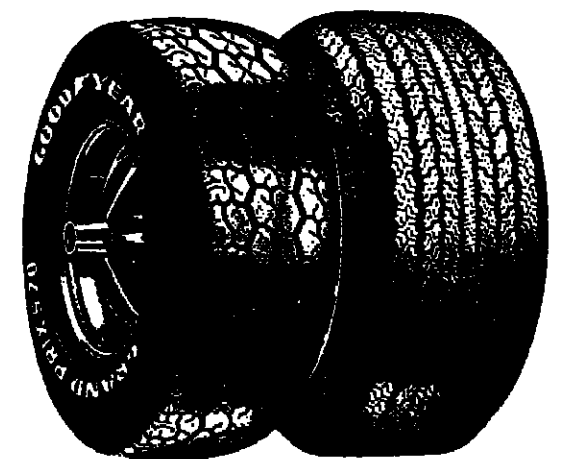
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## New peace conference on Chad set for Dec. 23

YAOUNDE, Cameroon, Dec. 17 (Agencies) — A new peace conference aimed at settling nearly two decades of civil strife in the North Central African nation of Chad has been set for Dec. 23 in Lagos, Nigeria, Cameroon President Ahmadou Ahidjo announced.

After Tuesday night's announcement, sources in Yaounde said rebel leader Hissene Habre and President Goukouni Oueddei will participate in the conference.

Habre, former defense minister in the transitional government, fled N'Djamena, Chad's capital, into neighboring Cameroon on Monday, abandoning the city after a struggle that began nearly nine months ago.

Habre signed a ceasefire agreement Tuesday in Cameroon after his forces were driven from the capital by a government offensive backed by Libyan tanks, jet fighters and infantrymen.

Goukouni signed the ceasefire agreement in Lome, Togo, last month. Under the Lome

agreement, Chad would be placed temporarily under the control of an African commission made up of Togo, Guinea, Benin and the Congo Republic, backed by a joint African peace force from the four countries. It also requires all troops to withdraw at least 100 kilometers from N'Djamena.

Habre said he still considered the Chad government "illegal" and "illegitimate" and vowed to continue his struggle against it.

Habre said his troops, most of whom reportedly left during the night of Sunday to Monday for his eastern Chad base of Abeche, had effected a "tactical retreat."

"The struggle continues," he said, and promised to return to Chad. He had crossed the Chari River into Cameroon as his men left N'Djamena.

Habre, in signing the ceasefire agreement, stressed that he rejected the participation of Libya and Benin in the settlement of the Chadian conflict. It was Libya's armed role that he had cited in refusing to sign until now.

## Repression hurting Israel, expelled Arab mayors say

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 17 (AP) — Israel is hurting its own cause by taking harsh measures against moderate Palestinians who are willing to live side-by-side with the Jewish state, say two Arab mayors expelled from the West Bank.

Muhammed Milhem of Halhoul, who was expelled by Israeli authorities on Dec. 5, charged that Israel is attempting to muzzle, discredit or expel politically influential Palestinians from the West Bank.

Milhem and another expelled mayor, Fahd Kawasmeh of Hebron, have come to New York to take their case to the U.N. Security Council, hoping to bring international pressure on Israel. They were interviewed in their hotel room across from U.N. headquarters.

"If I were an Israeli I would tell the Israeli

politicians, 'stop it. You are endangering the lives of our future generations and we don't want to be holocausted every 40 or 50 years,'" said Milhem. "We don't want it either."

He said Israel wanted to "isolate the leadership from their people in the hope the people will bow to autonomy and Camp David."

"What do they (the Israelis) mean by moderate? Those who accept occupation forever...who accept settlements? If that's what they mean, we are not moderate. No (Palestinian) accepts this," Kawasmeh said.

"We want to live with the Israelis two states, side by side," Milhem said. "We want an innocent state. We will prove to the world that the Palestinians want to live in peace. We don't want tanks. We don't want Phantoms or MIGs."

## Turkey pledges to halt torture of detainees

ANKARA, Dec. 17 (OFNS) — A pledge to prevent torture of political detainees was given by the prime minister of Turkey's military regime, retired Admiral Bulent Ulusu, at a news conference in Ankara last week. His statement followed allegations in a local magazine, and in a recent Amnesty International report, that eight detainees have died in uncertain circumstances while in custody.

Turkish laws, Ulusu asserted, "categorically prohibit torture and any action incompatible with human dignity against detainees." This government was determined to "implement meticulously" these laws, and would thoroughly investigate all allegations brought to its notice. At the moment, he said, no specific cases were before it.

Questioned about the eight deaths in custody, Ulusu said the allegations were "not based on fact but on gossip."

Since the military takeover on Sept. 12, about 12,000 people have been detained for suspected offenses against the state, including terrorism. More than 3,000 have since been released. The case which has aroused the greatest concern is that of a left-wing publisher, Ilhan Erdost, who according to all available evidence — was beaten to death by a squad of soldiers escorting him to a detention center in Ankara.

The military regime promptly set up the inquiry and nine soldiers were arrested, five of whom face court-martial charges.

It is generally accepted that the ruling military council, and the Ulusu government which works under its direction, are sincere in their desire to prevent ill-treatment of detainees. They do not wish to incur the odium that attached to the martial law commanders of 1971-73, when brutality was rife.



Ismail Fahmi

## Ismail Fahmi calls for freezing talks with Israel

CAIRO, Dec. 17 (AP) — Former Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmi, who resigned his post over Egypt's peace moves with Israel, has called on his government to freeze peace talks with the Jewish state because of its policy on Jerusalem.

In an interview with the weekly *Al-Shaab* newspaper, organ of the opposition Labor Socialist Party, Fahmi called the Egyptian-Israeli-American Camp David accords and the ensuing peace treaty "null and void."

"By annexing East Jerusalem, a part of the West Bank, Israelis can now continue colonizing the West Bank and leave nothing to negotiate, violating the Camp David agreements," Fahmi was quoted as saying.

The Camp David accords and the peace treaty signed by Egypt and Israel with the United States as a mediator calls on the parties to negotiate some form of self-rule for 1.5 million Palestinians living in the West Bank of the Jordan River and the Gaza Strip. Israel occupied these territories in the wake of the 1967 Mideast war.

Egypt suspended the talks in August following an Israeli parliament decision to unilaterally annex predominantly Arab East Jerusalem as part of the Jewish state's capital. Egypt considers East Jerusalem an integral part of the West Bank.

Fahmi was quoted as saying Egypt could legitimately freeze all talks without being accused of violating the peace accords as "Israel has already done that with its Jerusalem decision."

He added that there could be no solution to the Palestinian problem without the creation of a Palestinian state, the paper said. Fahmi suggested a United Nations mandate over the proposed Palestinian nation, with an international committee to supervise the transition to full statehood.

## Armenians claim responsibility Turkish consul slain in Sydney

SYDNEY, Dec. 17 (R) — The Turkish consul-general in Sydney and his bodyguard were killed Wednesday when two men on a motorcycle sprayed their car with gunfire in a Sydney suburb, police said. An Armenian guerrilla group claimed responsibility. The consul, Sarik Ariyak, was dead before ambulance men arrived on the scene and the bodyguard, Engin Sever, died in hospital, police said.

They said the killers fired an automatic pistol into the car and then escaped. The car crashed into a fence.

A woman claiming to represent "the justice commandos of the Armenian genocide" telephoned the Australian Associated Press news agency 40 minutes after the shooting to claim responsibility.

She said the killing was "in retaliation for the injustices done to the Armenians by the Turks."

The group, which has previously claimed responsibility for murdering about a dozen Turkish diplomats or their relatives in Europe since 1975, would strike again, she said.

## Israeli government fails to agree on austere budget

TEL AVIV, Dec. 17 (Agencies) — Israel's Finance Minister Yigael Hurwitz battled with his cabinet colleagues Tuesday to push through an austerity budget to rescue the nation from three-figure inflation. Political sources said ministers argued at length over Hurwitz's proposals to cut back departmental spending, freeze prices and reduce compensation payments now made to workers as a shield against soaring prices.

Ministers fear the measures proposed by Hurwitz would diminish their already low popularity ratings and bring certain electoral defeat for the government of Prime Minister Menachem Begin, which must face a general election within the next 11 months.

The cabinet debate came a day after the government announced a rise in consumer

prices of 9.4 per cent for the month of November. This brought the inflation rate for the 12 months since November, 1979 to 137.6 per cent.

The budget is believed to total about \$12 billion, roughly one third of it for defense. Official figures have not been released.

After the cabinet meeting a spokesman said the matter had been passed on to the cabinet's economic committee which would discuss the measures on Thursday.

Political sources said several ministers staunchly resisted the spending cuts that Hurwitz asked of them. In particular there was strong opposition to the cuts he wanted to make in the defense budget.

Israel's Chief of Staff, Lt. Gen. Rafael Eitan, attended the cabinet session.

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## In Tokyo shops

## Cash still flows as prices soar

By Howard Simons

TOKYO, (WP) — Every time I travel to Japan my mind boggles. Affluence, at least in Tokyo, is endemic. Japanese women are the world's most stylish — that is a fact — and secretaries think nothing of spending hundreds of dollars for a dress.

Prices can be and often are outrageous. Along the Ginza — Tokyo's Fifth Avenue — a pair of good men's shoes sell for \$300, a woman's Burberry raincoat for \$750, and a single apple (handsomely wrapped and three times the size of a red delicious) costs \$2. Lunch at one of Tokyo's best restaurants costs between \$170 and \$200 per person. A somewhat less decent but fashionable restaurant costs only \$120 each.

Japan's economic miracle notwithstanding, there is talk that the government may go bankrupt in a few years. The country's current debt is \$400 billion and growing.

Christmas in Tokyo is something else. Although I had read and seen television essays about the phenomenon, I was quite

unprepared for how deliciously seriously — commercially, that is — Buddhist Japan takes the holiday.

By late November there are Christmas lights and trees, Santa and reindeer, "merry Christmas" signs and decorations everywhere in the heart of Tokyo. This is especially true of the Ginza. Here, most of the major department stores feature, on their street facades, huge advertisements of Western models in Christmas garb or wrapping.

This year, the Matsuya Ginza department store has gone one step further. It has draped a six-story-high poster of a nude western model barely wrapped in a red ribbon down the entire interior wall of the store. This tickles many viewers, embarrasses others and, apparently, enrages some Japanese women. They are enraged not because the model is nude, but because — like almost all models in Japanese advertising — she is Caucasian.

One Japanese woman explained to a colleague that Japanese women are beginning to resent the ubiquitous use of Western models

because Japanese women neither look like nor are built like Western women. One sign of the revolt, if one can call it that, is an ad spotted on the subway here showing a smiling Japanese woman who had just X-ed out Western models in Bikinis.

Prices can be cheap, too. For less than \$20 per person, one can stay in a "people's inn" and get dinner and breakfast along with a night's lodging. One sleeps on a thin mattress on a bamboo mat, or tatami, and has a small rice-filled pillow. The food is traditional. For example, at the inn I stayed at in Izumi City in Japan's Southernmost island, breakfast consisted of a raw egg, grated radish, rice, seaweed consommé, dried seaweed and green tea.

Izumi City is home for several thousand cranes, which migrate annually from China and Siberia. Hundreds of ordinary Japanese, as well as bird-watchers, migrated to Izumi, too, to see these graceful birds whose likeness is embedded in Japanese art and culture.

This year the cranes arrived much earlier than usual, giving rise to speculation that is colder earlier in Siberia or there is less food available in Korea, where the birds stop en route to Izumi. There also are more cranes this year than ever, 3,500 already present and another thousand expected.

Thirty-five years ago, at the war's end, there were only 300. But help from the farmers brought the decimated flocks back to strength. Now, some of the farmers in Izumi are sorry and want to either get rid of the birds — now protected by law — or have the government subsidize the crop losses the farmers suffer from the cranes' eating habits. The battle between preservationists and farmers has been joined, but not resolved. Of course, I am on the side of the birds.

At the new Otani hotel in Tokyo a wake-up call is ordered by dialing a single digit (in this case the number 5) and then the wake-up time. For an 8 a.m. call, for example, one dials 50800. A lifting computer-driven voice immediately answers in Japanese and English, "Thank you. Good night." At 8 a.m. the phone rings and the first thing heard are several birds chirping, followed by a deliciously melodious "Good morning."

What happens if you take a nap and tell the computer you would like to get up at, say, 6 p.m.? At 6 p.m. the phone rings, birds chirp and the voice says, "good morning."



TOKYO: the famous Ginza shopping street

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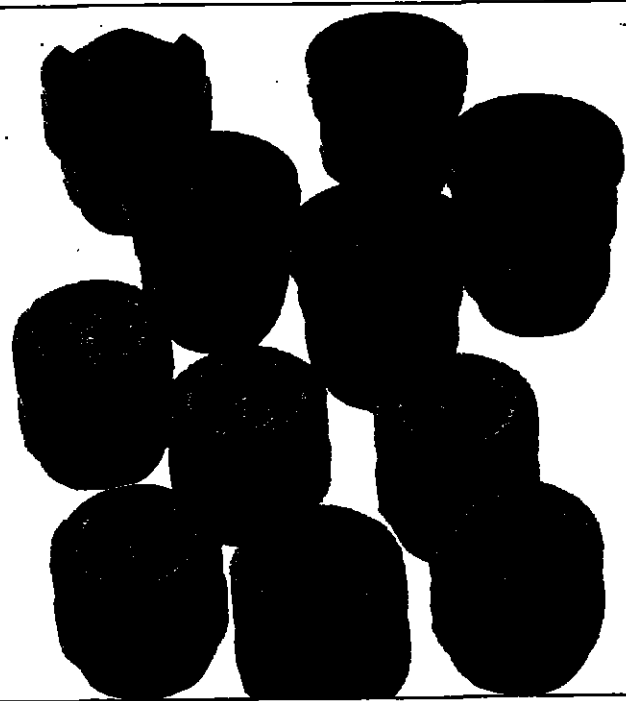
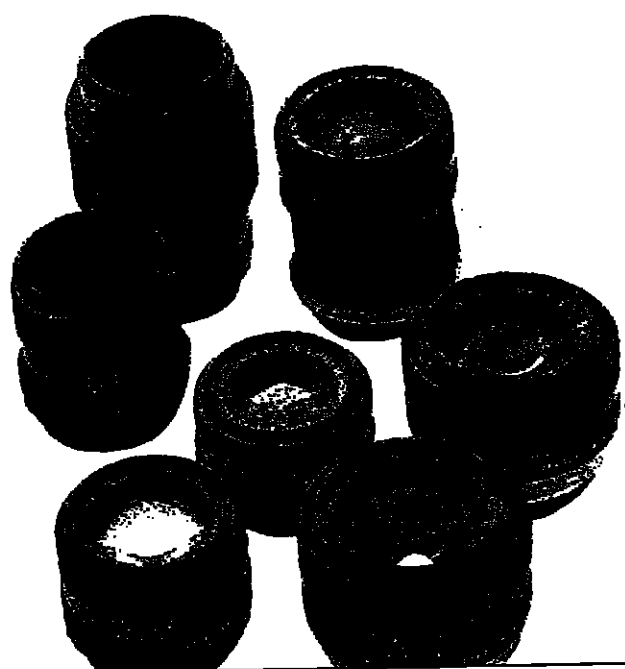
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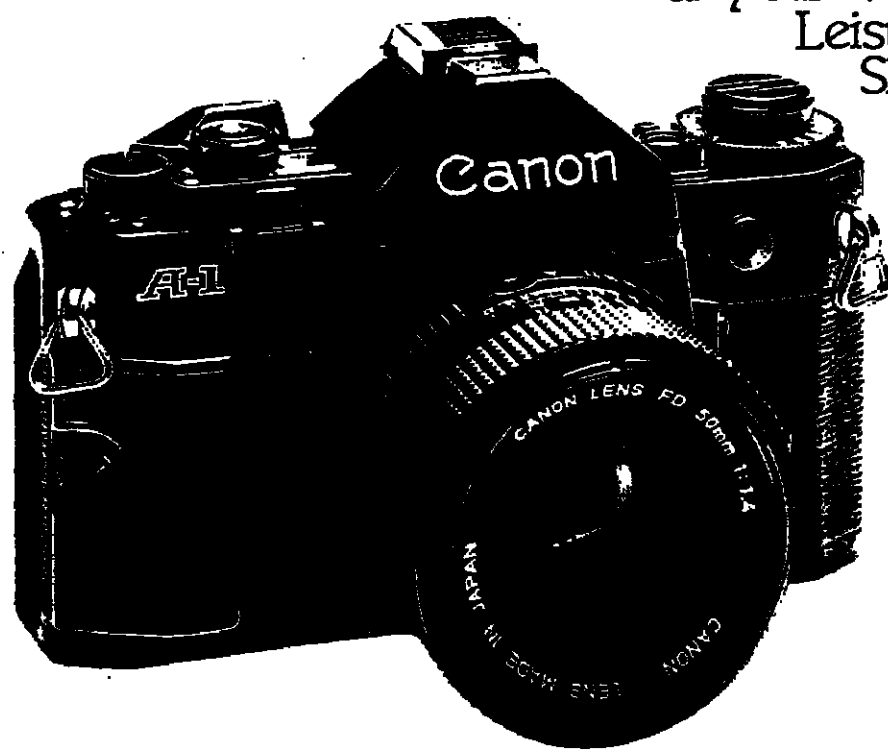
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## West Bengal defies Indira

By Samanta Datta-Ray

CALCUTTA — The Marxist government of the Indian state of West Bengal ordered a "strike" last month that brought commercial and industrial life to a halt for 24 hours. By Indian standards, there was hardly any violence — only two dead and 200 injured — demonstrating the extent of Marxist influence in the state.

The Indira Congress Party, which formally opposed the *bandh*, as this kind of complete closure is called, did not dare put its objections into practice. Nor would any Bengali dream of disobeying Marxist instructions, backed up as they were by bands of committed young toughs patrolling the deserted streets.

Schools, colleges, offices, banks, shops and factories pulled down their shutters. Trains from outside were stopped at West Bengal's borders: a few that ventured in were pelted with stones, halted in their tracks by brigades of outraged Marxists and forced to reverse. Buses, trams, taxis, private cars and rickshaws kept off the streets.

The "officially sponsored lock-out," which is how Indira Congress leaders described this formidable display of power, was the first to be called by an Indian government. Opposition parties regularly try to flex their political muscle or express disapproval of official policies through such paralyzing demonstrations, but never before has a party in office needed to reassure itself with this kind of crippling display.

The protest was aimed at Indira Gandhi's regime in New Delhi, which is accused of starving West Bengal of food and investment funds. State leaders complain that industrialists are refused licenses to set up factories in West Bengal.

Fourteen bills adopted by Jyoti Basu's Marxist ministry cannot become law because New Delhi is delaying assent. He objects, too, to the arbitrary powers of arrest and imprisonment that the prime minister recently acquired under her national security ordinance, reviving fears of another spell of emergency-style repression.

A final charge relates to West Bengal's exclusion from the round of by-elections held in all other states only a few weeks ago. According to Basu, Mrs. Gandhi is deliberately keeping vacant six seats in the local assembly and one in the central parliament because she knows that the squabbling, ineffective and discredited West Bengal branch of her party does not have a chance of winning in free elections. Polling is expected, in fact, to reinforce the Marxists' mandate, which would make it even more difficult to dislodge Basu.

## Whites quitting Mugabe's army

By Bruce Johns

SALISBURY — Some 90 per cent of Zimbabwe's 2,000 white combat soldiers will have quit the army by the new year as a new national army is created based on guerrillas they fought in seven years of war.

Many of the Rhodesian Light Infantry troops have joined the 1,500 whites fleeing the former British colony each month since independence earlier this year. Often they have joined the armed forces of South Africa — the continent's last white-ruled nation — which is braced for its own guerrilla war.

President Canaan Banana has urged whites not to join the exodus to South Africa, warning that they would be "leaving the cooling frying-pan" to jump into the fire. But South Africa offers a tempting one-year contract for soldiers, with minimum earnings of around \$1,000 a month, easy immigration formalities, paid furniture removal and other perks.

"Most of us couldn't stomach the idea of staying on and working for our old enemies," Corporal Matt Russell, 31, said recently as he left for South Africa. "With our experience we're treated like royalty there."

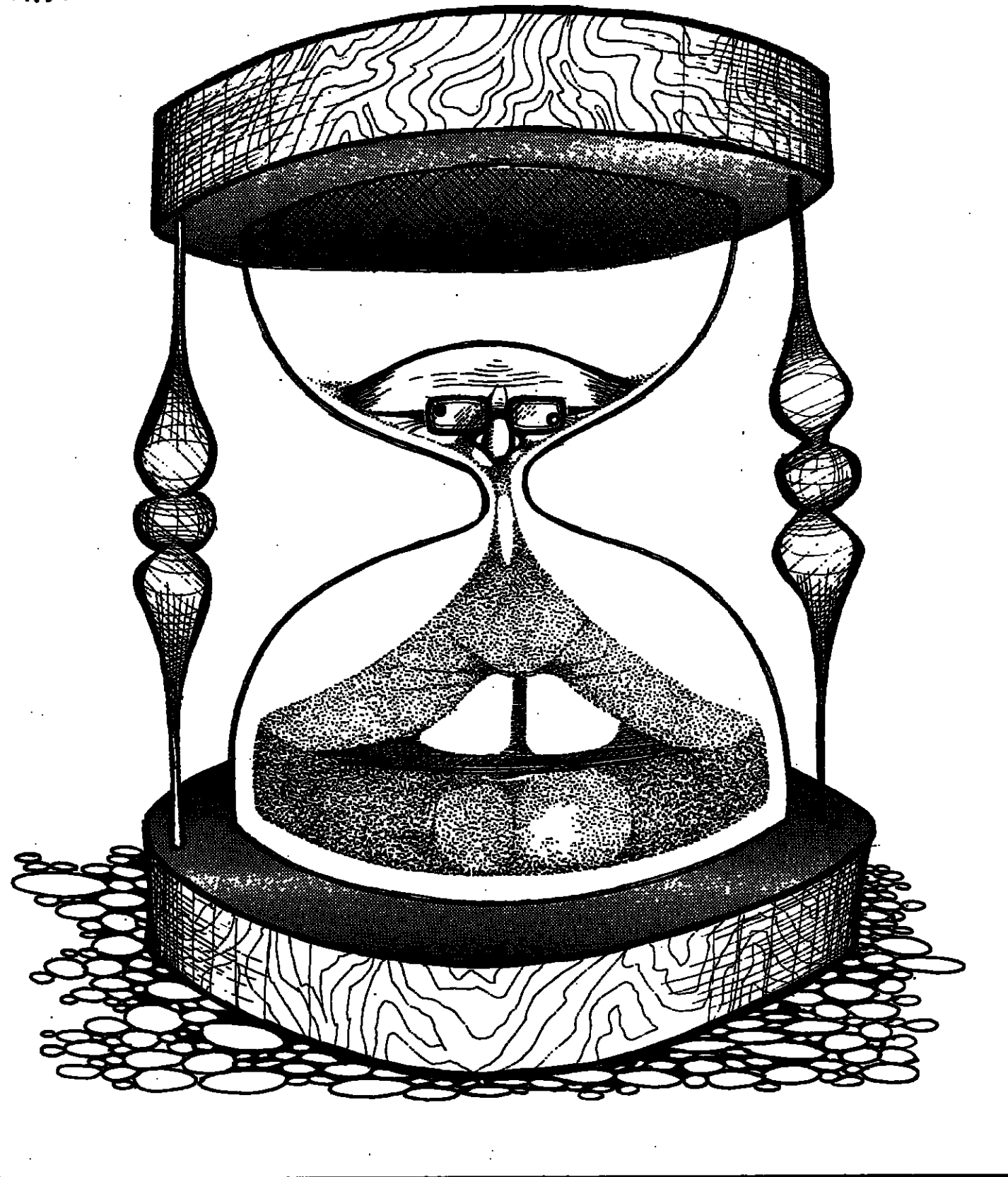
White Rhodesians are now fighting in Namibia against guerrillas of Sam Nujoma's South-West African People's Organization. Others are based in the Northern Transvaal, bordering Zimbabwe, where they are being trained for possible hot pursuit raids back into Zimbabwe after South African guerrillas.

"You never know when we might be back," said Russell. "If (Prime Minister Robert) Mugabe is daft enough to provide bases for terrorists he'll be dlobbered from here to kingdom come."

The flight of white troops has eased the task of 80 British officers, who are integrating the guerrillas of two rival forces — Mugabe's ZANLA and Home Affairs Minister Joshua Nkomo's ZIPRA — with the mainly black regular soldiers who were their foes in the conflict. Despite claims by Mugabe's eight-month-old government that integration is moving smoothly and speedily, sources say less than 5,000 men have been successfully welded together in the new national army. The same sources say they do not expect full integration for at least a year.

An army of at least 18,000 men is envisaged. That means some 25,000 of the 36,000 guerrillas will have to be deployed on the land to grow food — soldiers in economic development. British officers supervising integration say that ethnic and ideological rivalries have largely evaporated.

M. KAHAL 80  
ARAB NEWS - JEDDAH



## Somali orphans fight for Ogaden freedom

By Greg Wilesmith

ALOSHA IGA KA, Ethiopia — In the shade of a camouflaged freedom fighter camp in the Ogaden, a 13-year-old boy, Anomaw Hussein, tries to teach himself to read and write Somali script. Within easy reach is his Kalashnikov automatic rifle. Hussein is a fighter of the Western Somali Liberation Front (WSLF) — a veteran of four years of fighting and 11 major battles against the Ethiopians. His father, also a fighter, was killed earlier this year. His mother died years ago.

For him and a whole generation of young Somalis, the war for independence from Ethiopia is their sole purpose in life. At the Lugh Jellow refugee camp, just inside the Somali border, I saw WSLF cadres holding an indoctrination session for other young orphans.

The cadres concentrate on shaping the minds of the orphans, filling them with hatred for the "Abyssinian colonizers." (That colonization took place 90 years ago when the Ethiopian Emperor Menelik captured what is still the principal city of the Ogaden, Harar.)

The boys are told that anything less than total victory is inconceivable; that they must be prepared to fight and die for the establishment of their own country, Western Somalia.

Inevitably those young orphan boys from Lugh Jellow refugee camp and boys from the 32 other refugee camps throughout Somalia will spend their youth fighting in the Ogaden — though, in the nature of hit-and-run warfare, the frequency of clashes between the WSLF and the Ethiopians is low.

I traveled with a party of fighters to Alosha Iga Ka, 110 miles inside the Ethiopian border, setting out at sunset in a WSLF Land-Rover. There was no trouble crossing the frontier. The Somali border

guard waved us through — and the Ethiopian border post had been deserted for two years. We traveled for nine hours across the desert, exchanging passwords with the nervous gunmen who stopped us at a series of checkpoints.

Rest stops at several WSLF-controlled villages produced a flood of questions from the elders who administer laws and collect taxes for the fighters. "Will the United States' decision to establish a military base at Berbera (northwest Somalia) mean that we will get weapons from the Americans? Why doesn't the West help us to kick the Cubans and Russians out of Western Somalia?"

Officially the United States' \$40 million arms commitment to Somalia is for defensive weapons for use only by the Somali regular forces. The U.S. does not want to get caught up in the WSLF's war.

Diplomatic sources in the Somali capital, Mogadishu, claim there are between 6,000 and 10,000 Cubans and perhaps 2,000 Russians in the whole of the Ogaden. The WSLF claims a higher figure but admits the Cubans and Russians do not take an active role in the fighting, apart from piloting the MIG fighters which occasionally strafe Somali border towns.

The Alosha Iga Ka camp is well hidden in a small wood about 10 miles from the town of Callao. According to Abdullah Abdul Omar, the local WSLF commander, Callao is an Ethiopian garrison.

"There are 5,700 enemy soldiers there and 3,000 of our women and children," he says. "We have prepared plans for the liberation of Callao as soon as we get more men from the training camps."

Any attempt to capture a town like Callao would be a break with the marauding style of warfare waged by the WSLF in the past two years, during which it has been spreading its control of the countryside, forcing the Ethiopians back into the towns and cutting off their supply routes.

Certainly the thousand or so lightly armed fight-

ers I saw in and around the Alosha Iga Ka camp would find it difficult to mount a conventional offensive against Callao, which appears reasonably well fortified. Senior WSLF tacticians are pinning their hopes on international pressure forcing the Russian and Cuban military advisers to leave Ethiopia and on getting arms through Somalia from the United States.

Neither hope seems realistic in the short term. Indeed the prospect of an American base at Berbera is likely to further harden the USSR's commitment to Ethiopia.

A new factor in the Ogaden war in recent months has been the emergence of the Somali Salvation Front, SOSAF. Made up of Somali exiles determined to overthrow the government of President Siad Barre, SOSAF broadcasts its anti-Barre message into Somalia from a radio station in Ethiopia. According to diplomats in Mogadishu, SOSAF soldiers led a cross-border raid by Ethiopian troops in August into the northwest of the country, near Hargeisa.

Politicians in Kenya's North-East Province accuse SOSAF of initiating a wave of murders in the region recently in an effort to whip up support among Kenyan Somalis for the Salvation Front's offensive against the Barre government.

A SOSAF coup would be a crushing blow to the WSLF, who rely on support from Barre. The new government would demand a negotiated settlement with Ethiopia over the Ogaden, arms supplies to the fighters could be cut off and the rebels denied sanctuary in Somalia.

If the Ogaden conflict was just another African bush war then its settlement might not be so urgent, but there are an estimated 850,000 refugees from the Ogaden in refugee camps in Somalia as a direct consequence of the war. The cost to the international community of keeping those people alive is enormous, and a negotiated settlement is the only way of returning the refugees to their homeland.

## BEGIN'S CRIMINAL PAST

Menahe Begin, Israel's present prime minister, butcher of Deir Yassin, the Palestinian village where unarmed men, women and children, were massacred, and "hero" of the Jerusalem King David Hotel massacre, was recently given ample television time in Britain. And it was no wonder, given his "glorious" history, that he kept insisting he does not want to talk about the past, and that his concern was with the present and the future only. With such a criminal, murderous past, he had little choice.

Yet, reluctant as he was to talk about the recent past, he was more than willing to lay claim to Palestine, and on strength of a period which ended 2000 years ago. Asked how this compares with the Palestinians' right to their home, after no more than three decades of expulsion, he had no answer — except bluster. The persistent questioning on this point brought from him only further obfuscation: The catastrophe the Jews faced in Europe somehow justifies everything as far as he is concerned. All the atrocities against the Palestinians have to be accepted, from outright murder of women and children, to mass expulsion, to continued attempts to stifle even the simplest expression of Palestinian identity. All of this — down to the recent use of live ammunition against an unarmed demonstration of schoolchildren — has to be accepted without question by the international community.

But the signs are growing and the televised interview with Begin is one of them, that this alibi is wearing very thin at last. The Zionists are at last being seen in their true, murderous colors, as the executioners and tormentors of the people of Palestine. But the international community, which is slowly but inexorably becoming aware of the true dimension of the Palestinian tragedy, must realize that moral condemnation against the Zionists is not enough. Action has to be taken to right the historic wrong which the Palestinians have been made to suffer. And it must be taken quickly.

## Saudi Arabian Press Review

In a lead story, *Al Medina* and *Al Yom* said a restricted summit of Syria, Jordan, Iraq and Libya would be held before the convening of the Islamic summit conference in Mecca. *Al Jazirah*, *Al Bilad* and *Al Nadwa* led with OPEC's agreement on the new prices of oil. King Khaled's praise of the activities of the society for the Promotion of Virtue and Prevention of Vice formed the lead story in *Okaz*, while *Al Riyadh* led with Queen Elizabeth's remarks that the nomination of Sheikh Nasser Al-Manqour as Saudi Arabia's ambassador to Britain reaffirmed the Kingdom's determination to see bilateral relations stronger than ever before.

Newspapers frontpaged OPEC's deliberations and its decision to raise the oil price by \$2 to 3 per barrel. They also gave prominence to Israel's refusal to accept the resolutions of the U.N. General Assembly. *Al Jazirah* gave page one prominence to U.S. President-elect Ronald Reagan's decision to appoint Alexander Haig as the secretary of state in his administration. King Khaled's reaffirmation of Saudi Arabia's adherence to the divine laws also figured prominently in the newspapers.

Newspaper editorials discussed the resolutions of the OPEC conference, holding the major powers responsible for any oil price hike that the organization feels compelled to effect from time to time. Some papers dealt with the upcoming Islamic summit in Mecca as well as malicious campaigns against the Kingdom. In an editorial on OPEC, *Al Medina* noted that the organization was playing a com-

mendable role in supporting the world economy and trying to make oil available to all at a reasonable price. In the paper's view, the industrialized nations were to be blamed for price hikes, as they turned a deaf year to the woes and economic difficulties of poorer nations. It urged the rich nations to carry out their responsibility and enter into a serious dialogue with the emerging nations with a view to rebuilding a just economic system in the world.

Reviewing the objective reasons for the oil price hike, *Al Jazirah* said the consumer countries have not been able to control the average consumption of oil, and therefore failed to make major oil companies stop speculations among themselves on the prices of oil being sold in the free market. It said many developments have taken place, both at regional and world levels, since the last price hike, which have compelled the organization to make a revision of its declared policy on quantity of oil produced, its prices, the average world consumption and the volume of loss in the value of dollar. The paper urged major industrial powers and other oil-consuming countries to bear their responsibility, in view of the fact they have failed to compel major world oil companies to compensate the oil shortage in world markets as a result of the Iraq-Iran armed conflict.

Discussing the upcoming Islamic summit conference, *Al Yom* observed that this conference would be the fruit of sincere efforts exerted by Saudi

Arabia at both Arab and Islamic levels to bring about unity and solidarity and to confront the problems of the Arab and Islamic in an objective manner. The conference will be faced with an onerous task since the problems are increasing day by day and their solutions are required on an urgent basis, the paper added.

*Al Nadwa* dwelled on the U.N. General Assembly's resolutions on the Palestine issue and urged the Arab world to make a move to benefit from the world body's resolutions. It further called upon them to persist in their contacts with the international community, in order to be able to have the resolutions implemented by compelling the Zionist entity to show regard to the Arab rights. The paper referred to the great energies of the Arab nation but said there was something missing between the potentialities and their obligations and, therefore, they

Includes neo-Italian state rooms

# New York's newest hotel is its oldest too

By Lee Benedict

JEDDAH—Imagine a hotel twice as high as the Queen's Building and with more rooms than The Hyatt, the Sheraton and the Meridien combined.

That's The Palace, New York's newest hotel and, curiously, one of its oldest.

The Palace shoots up 55 stories over Madison Avenue at 50th Street, overlooking the Gothic towers of St. Patrick's Cathedral.

The tall, brown-metal shaft that is the new Palace is linked at its base with one of the greatest architectural landmarks in all New York, the elegant, 100-year-old Villard Houses.

It took six years to build the new tower and connect it to the handsome, brownstone Villard Houses. And it all took place at one of the busiest locations in the city.

The project attracted considerable attention and debate and has not been without its detractors. A critic writing in the *New York Times*, called The Palace tower "a boring box" and said "There are Holiday Inns with more architectural style."

At the same time, though, the project has received considerable acclaim for its preservation of the incomparable Villard Houses and for the meticulous attention paid to the restoration of the public rooms in the handsome old residences. And even the *Times* was

impressed, with the amenities that await guests within the new tower. The *Times* writer described the rooms as large, well-furnished and comfortable and said "This place gives every indication... of being a wonderful hotel in which to spend time."

The Palace opened in September as workmen were busy putting the finishing touches to many of the guest rooms and public areas. It has been enjoying turn-away business ever since.

Here are some impressions of the Big Apple's new showplace, garnered during a recent stay there.

Traffic around 50th and Mad Avenue is worse than Medina and Palestine roads at the rush hour. In fact, if you are not positioned in the right lane to make the turn at 50th, forget it. (Changing lanes in New York is something like racing the bulls in Pamplona.)

If you miss the turn, as I did, you continue north on Madison, work your way over to the proper lane (allow two blocks for that maneuver), hang a right, double back on Park Avenue and sneak up on the Palace from 49th.

Like the man who carries two handkerchiefs, one for show and one for blow, the Palace has two entrances: the grand entrance off of Madison and the working entrance off of 50th.

The hotel garage is next to the 50th street entrance in case you're driving. But with the final construction work just winding down part of it was being used by contractors and overflow cars were being shuttled to another garage.

The going rate for parking in Manhattan these days is \$13 per 24-hour day plus tax, which boosts the tariff up to close to \$15 a day.

While the Madison Avenue entrance is spacious, elegant and impressive, the 50th street entrance is modest to the point of being architecturally stingy. The check-in desk just inside the door is narrow and seems to offer barely enough space for the staff to move about. The check-in process is not enhanced by the crowded conditions on both sides of the counter.

But once you're past that hurdle, it's smooth sailing from there on out. The Palace must have put all of its staff through charm school. They are a cheerful and cooperative bunch who seem to go out of their way to be helpful.

Incidentally, your bellboy won't let you into your room with a conventional door key. He'll insert a card with a special computer code number which opens the door. When you check out, the card is thrown away and the next guest gets a new card with a new

computer number.

The big, comfortable rooms have all the usual hotel goodies plus a few more: bottled tonic water, sewing kits, shower caps, shampoo, shoe polish.

Room service is extraordinarily speedy. Shortly after 7 p.m., a call for laundry service brought a bellman who scooped up a batch of crumpled clothes and dashed off saying he would have them back later in the evening. It hardly seemed an hour had passed when the same business-like man dashed back into the room with the now-squeaky-clean clothes, hung them up and dashed out again — without giving the astonished guests time to even consider much less proffer a tip.

Such grand service doesn't come cheap, to be sure. The laundry and dry cleaning bill was over \$20 and tea and pastry for two served in the room cost \$29.

The room tariff was a shocker too, even by Jeddah's and New York's high standards. Our big comfortable double cost \$160 per night. Singles start at \$120 and go to \$180 in four steps. Add \$20 for a second person in the room. One bedroom suites start at \$280 per night and go to \$500. Two bedroom suites are \$600 and \$700; the Ambassador suite is \$900 and a "triplex" is \$1,800 per night.

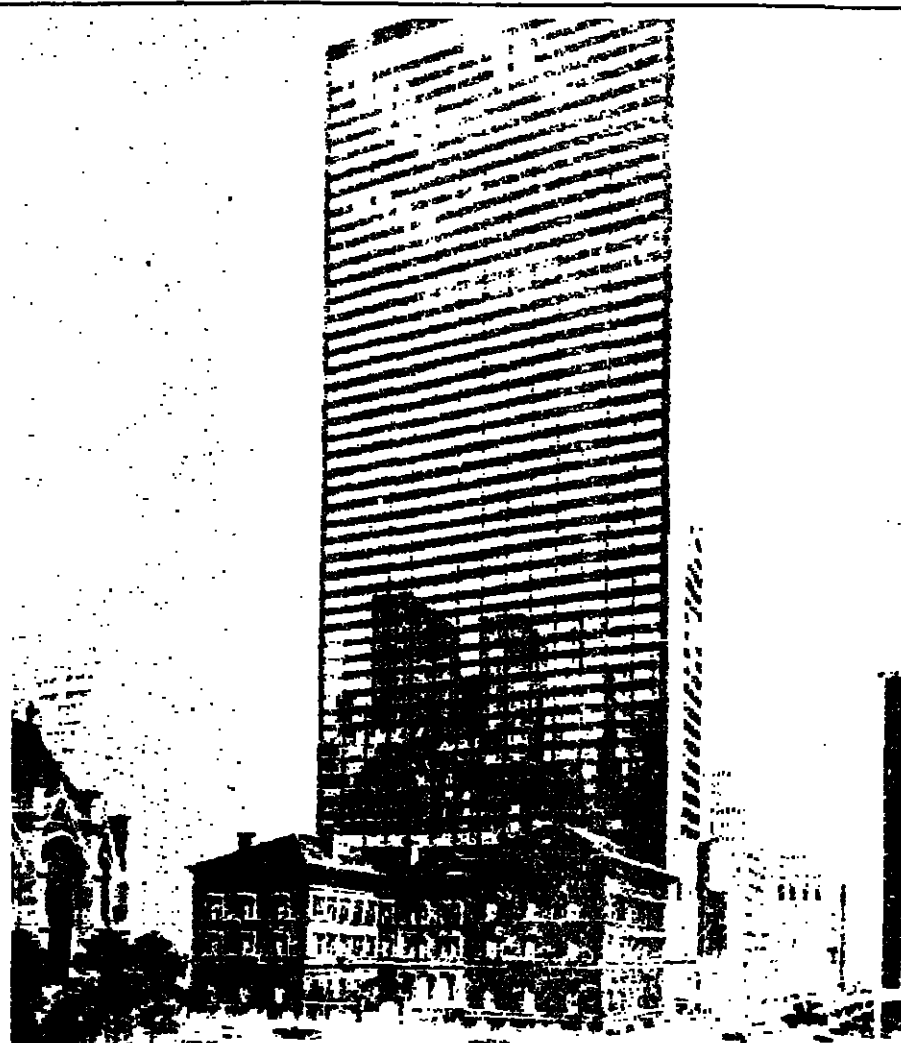
As though the \$160 rate wasn't enough, New York adds taxes to the bill each day. There is a \$12.80 per night room tax and a \$2 "occupancy" tax. So your \$160 per night room for two is actually \$174.80. Add parking charges, room service and tips and you're in for over \$200 a night.

If the tariff is too steep for you, the Waldorf is just down the block and the Barclay and the new Hyatt are nearby. But don't expect to save much. Most four-star properties in New York are now over the \$100 per night range.

If you don't stay at the Palace, at least treat yourself to tea, cocktails or dinner in one of the public rooms of the Villard Houses. There's the Gold Room, with John LaFarge murals on the walls, French Renaissance wood wainscoting and gold brocade walls, for continental breakfast, tea and cocktails; the Drawing Room, with green marble columns and gold-leafed ceiling; the Bar, the former oak-paneled dining room of the mansion; the Trianon Room, with its beautiful artwork and furnishings; and the marble-lined hallways and magnificent grand staircase.

Villard Houses were originally a cluster of townhouses built in 1882 by Henry Villard, one of New York's most prominent financiers. The architectural firm of McKim, Mead and White designed them along Neo-Italian Renaissance lines, after the Palazzo della Cancelleria in Rome. For years, they served as an American palace where lavish parties and balls were attended by leaders of society.

Now that the rooms are open to the public, they are well worth visiting. There are few finer anywhere. And certainly none so grand in any other contemporary hotel.



HOTEL: the Palace in New York, with the Villard Houses in the foreground

## Arab News Diary

### Eastern Province

By Jean Grant

ALKHOBAR — 300 parents and small fry ball players fought the blustery winds of a shamaal to attend the Arabian Gulf Little League's bar-b-que last Friday at Al Khodari compound, Khobar.

Mr. Polka Dot, the jolly clown with the woolly red hair and Western drawl, tied up the children wearing their spanking new baseball uniforms for a heated 3-legged race. Parents enjoyed the country music of "The Best of the West in the Middle East" band who played such Western favorites as *Cripple Creek*, *Blues Harp*, and *Steel Guitar* rag. President of the Arabian Gulf Little League, Bob Costa, said that its 150 players from 17 countries, all under the age of 12, met to "play ball in a spirit of competition and sportsmanship."

Coaches Cal Svoboda, George Cardenas, Roger Strom, George Ortiz, and Lou Lozano will manage the 10 teams in the 80 games scheduled between January and March, when an all-star team will be chosen to represent the area in Spain.

Aramoon Pikel and Bert Carreon won the Dhahran garden group's "Yard of the

Month" award for their garden in the Dhahran hills. Ben Carreon told *Arab News* that hibiscus, zinnias, frangipani, and bougainvillea all flourish in the sandy soil here. It is, nevertheless, "a continual battle," especially with the shamaals. The one last week broke some of the stems of plants whose roots were not firmly anchored. The Carreons well deserve the coveted award since they spend 3 hours most evenings and 8 hours on the weekends making their garden bloom. Another gardener to be recently honored was Phyllis Bozell who was selected as gardener of the month by the local IWG. Her garden, those without land will be heartened to know, is her living room which she has turned into a regular conservatory with foliage ranging from coleus and palms to airplane plants.

Dhahran International Airport sports a festive mood these days as expat parents greet junior or young nipper fresh from boarding schools in America and Europe. The teenagers report they are happy to see Mum and Dad, sand and sea again, and to have a well-earned break from homework and classes, most are here for the next 13

weeks.

Teema and Ernie Conklin with daughter Sara are heading off to San Diego after a stay of several years in Khobar. Ernie will be missed in the circle of American businessmen for his wit and good humor. Peter Barnes hosted a farewell reception in their honor last Friday night at the Al-Bustan compound at which some of the Conklins' many friends said goodbye and wished them success as they set up a business of their own in the States.

150 bookings have been made, but there are still a few places left for the children's party and parents' luncheon at the Ramada Hotel for December 25. Two downs will entertain the children in a special routine. The clowns are regularly featured at the Ramada's Friday luncheons but they promise a special treat for next Thursday's performance.

At the Alghosabi hotel the Republic of China trade fair has been postponed to December 21 to 27 with displays of this and that — everything from jade to furniture and garments to electrical equipment. Hours will be from 8 to 12 and from 4 to 9 in the evening.

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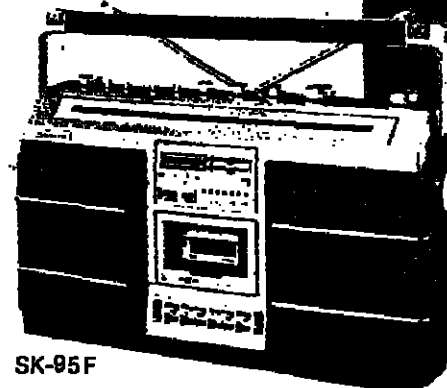
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## Hijacked jetliner lands in Cuba; hostages free

HAVANA, Dec. 17 (AP) — The Colombian jetliner hijacked by anti-government terrorists landed at Havana's Jose Marti Airport Tuesday after hopping across Colombia, Panama, Mexico and the Caribbean. Security measures kept reporters away from the red and white Boeing 727, which came to a halt at the end of a runway. Airport workers said about 100 people left the plane and all appeared to be well. They were taken to an immigration office.

### Hong Kong officials to tackle license scam

HONG KONG, Dec. 17 (AP) — Anti-graft officers from the independent commission against corruption will visit India next week to seek cooperation in stopping a driving license racket.

A commission spokesman said there was a sharp increase in Indian license holders applying to swap for Hong Kong licenses recently. Many of these Indian license holders are Hong Kong residents and some of them have only spent a few hours in transit at Bombay or Calcutta airport, the spokesman said. The commission wants the issuance of licenses to transients stopped.

After the commission was called in to investigate the scandal, officials of the transport department and many applicants were interviewed, but since the probe began in September no one has been charged.

The Hong Kong government has agreements with 28 countries, including India, to exchange driving licenses for cars and motorcycles. The spokesman said more than 1,000 Indian licenses were turned in for Hong Kong licenses this year. Another 300 have been withheld at the transport department since September.

Cuban officials refused to permit interviews with the passengers or crew and declined to say what would happen to the hijackers. The hijackers, said to be armed with grenades, and some 60 remaining hostages had flown out of Mexico City Airport on the last leg of a 3,465 km odyssey that began 24 hours earlier over the Colombian capital of Bogota.

Mexican authorities said the guerrillas freed two passengers who were ill before taking off with the remaining 53 passengers and seven crew members for the 800 km flight to Havana.

Earlier in the day, the guerrillas released 24 passengers in Panama City — thirty others were freed in Colombia's Caribbean port town of Barranquilla.

A Mexican reporter allowed on the plane during its four hours in Mexico City said six men identified themselves as guerrillas. He said they wore bandannas over their faces and carried grenades. Earlier reports from airline authorities put the number of guerrillas at 16.

According to the Mexican reporter, the hijackers' leader identified himself as "Comandante Uno," the same name used by the leader of the Dominican Republic Embassy takeover in Bogota last spring. The identity of the embassy leader was never firmly established and it was not clear if the same person was involved in the jetliner hijacking, but the group's name — M-19 — was the same.

The reporter, Guillermo Perez Verdusco of Televisa, said the guerrillas told him the takeover was named "Operation Simon Bolivar," in honor of the 150th anniversary Tuesday of the death of the South American liberator.



SUCCESSOR: Francisco Pinto Balsemão, chosen last week to succeed Portuguese Prime Minister Francisco de Sá Carneiro, speaks to reporters in Lisbon. Sá Carneiro died in a plane crash.

### Powell defends snakes

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (R) — The White House came to the defense of snakes after President-elect Ronald Reagan's 22-year-old son, Ronnie, accused President Jimmy Carter of having the morals of one.

Ronnie, a ballet dancer, criticized Carter in a magazine interview, saying he resented that the outgoing president had suggested during the election campaign that his father was a racist and a warmonger. White House Press Secretary Jody Powell refused to comment directly on Ronnie's remark that Carter had the morals of a snake.

But he discussed on snakes in general because, he said, he knew them well. "Something ought to be said in defense of snakes," he said. "I used to catch them when I was a kid. They are clean. They kill rodents. They have little discernible odor. They almost never bother you unless you step on them."

## Lame-duck U.S. Congress shifts to right

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (R) — The U.S. Congress has adjourned after a year in which a conservative resurgence forced liberal Democrats on to the defensive and finally defeated many of them in November's election landslide.

When Congress opens a news session on Jan. 5 it will have a Republican-controlled Senate for the first time in 25 years and a stronger Republican minority in the House of Representatives. Throughout the year Democrats, sensing a national shift to the right, embraced some conservative causes. Congress trimmed spending, tried but failed to balance the budget, and approved a record \$160-billion defense bill.

The Democrats put off some politically unpalatable decisions until after the election, bringing Congress back to consider more legislation. Finally, the way was cleared for adjournment Tuesday morning when Congress, fearing a voter backlash, refused to give itself a 10 per cent pay increase.

During the year Congress passed landmark legislation on energy, voting to launch an enormous program to develop synthetic fuels to replace dwindling oil reserves. The program could cost nearly \$90 billion in the next decade and to help pay for it Congress enacted a windfall profits tax on the oil industry.

But it refused to support President Jimmy Carter's proposal for an energy mobilization

### Oarsman loses touch

SONOMA, California, Dec. 17 (AP) — Sponsors of Briton Peter Bird's attempt to be the first to row across the Pacific Ocean alone said he has missed two radio contacts, probably because of radio failure. Bird, who left San Francisco Oct. 1 en route to Australia, will now probably be out of touch with the world until the end of his nine-month to one-year trip.

### Trims spending, boosts defense

board to overlook energy projects, fearing it would ignore state and environmental concerns. It also vetoed Carter's plan to help energy conservation by imposing a \$4.62 a barrel import fee on oil.

In a year in which incoming Republican President Ronald Reagan campaigned on promises to reduce government regulation, Congress removed many government con-

trols from the railroads, the trucking industry and banks and restricted the activities of the Federal Trade Commission.

1980 also saw the shelving of the U.S.-Soviet Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT). The Senate set it aside after the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan and Reagan says he wants it renegotiated.

## 'Col.' Sanders, chicken magnate, dies

LOUISVILLE, Kentu., Dec. 17 (R) — "Colonel" Harland D. Sanders, the founder of the billion-dollar Kentucky Fried Chicken enterprise, died Tuesday in a hospital here. He was 90.

his death was announced by John Cox, vice president for public affairs for the Kentucky Fried Chicken Company. Sanders was admitted to the hospital last month for treatment of a kidney and bladder infection and leukemia. While under treatment his condition worsened and in the latter stages he contracted pneumonia.

Sanders was born to poor Indiana farmers on Sept. 9, 1890, and spent his early life drifting from one dead-end venture to another. Because of his later fame he was made "A Kentucky Colonel", a state honor given to the famous but with no military connotations. Kentucky Fried Chicken's 5,000 franchised fast food outlets in the United States and 1,000 overseas listed sales of more than \$2 billion last year.

After a minimal education, Sanders worked as a railway fireman, service station attendant, tram conductor, steamboat ferryman, law student, insurance salesman and motel operator, before opening a roadside cafe in the 1930s serving chicken to passing motorists.

It was only in 1956, when Sanders was

already 66 years old and highway construction had put his cafe and service station out of business that he started on the road that made him a millionaire. He set off with a \$105 Social Security check in his pocket, a pressure cooker in his car, and the notion that people just might like his home-style fried chicken recipe enough to buy it.

### 'Gang' trial off again

PEKING, Dec. 17 (AFP) — The trial of Jiang Qing, Mao Tse-tung's wife and the leader of the "Gang of Four," was postponed again Wednesday for the fourth consecutive day. An official spokesman confirmed that no session would be held.

The last hearing was held Saturday. Jiang was the last of 10 defendants still scheduled to answer questions before the special court of 35 judges gathered to hear charges of "counter-revolutionary crimes" allegedly committed by the 10 during the 1966-76 Cultural Revolution.

A new session for Jiang, originally set for Monday, had been rescheduled for Wednesday, Hong Kong's pro-Communist *Ta Kung Pao* newspaper has reported. Jiang was escorted from the witness stand last Friday after she hurled abuse at witnesses who had testified against her, and openly defied the judges.

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But good news scarce

## Crisis-weary Italians eager for relief

ROME, Dec. 17 (AP) — The daring abduction of a prominent judge by a terrorist gang — the latest in the seemingly unending stream of bad news for Italians this year — has added to the gloom and frustration pervading Italian society.

Three weeks after a massive earthquake devastated southern Italy, killing more than 3,000 people, Italians are thirsty for good news, or at least for business as usual. They are not getting much help.

Cynicism born of political impotence, corruption, violence and the early arrival of wet and cold winter all combine in the brew of discontentment. Over the weekend, the big newspapers printed large front-page photographs of Judge Giovanni D'Urso sitting in front of a red flag embossed with the words "Brigate Rosse" (Red Brigades) and a five-pointed star in a circle. He was holding a large sign scribbled with Red Brigades demands for the shutdown of a maximum security prison for violent political.

D'Urso, 49, who held the highly sensitive post of directing transfers of inmates to maximum security prisons, was snatched Friday in the first political kidnapping since the Red Brigades grabbed former Premier Aldo Moro in March 1978 and killed him after holding him 53 days in a "people's prison."

D'Urso's abduction revived the painful memories of Moro ordeal. The terrorists seemed to be making sure of that.

There were familiar references to class struggle, a "people's tribunal" and a "people's prison." Even D'Urso's gaunt and unshaven face resembled Moro's pictures.

## U.S. unit protects cities from nuclear blackmail

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (APF) — The United States government has secretly formed a special unit to prevent "atomic terrorism" — like blackmailing an American city by threatening it with nuclear destruction.

The unit is called "NEST" (Nuclear Emergency Search Team) and its headquarters is 25 kms north of Washington in an annex of the Department of Energy at Germantown, Maryland. It has direct communication links with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Central Intelligence Agency and the Pentagon. Its headquarters maintains a staff on permanent duty, ready to deal with any nuclear threat.

The unit was set up by President Gerald Ford in November 1974, but its existence was

released during his captivity and suggested that it might be the work of the same old photographer.

"They (the terrorists) are ridiculing all of us — the citizens, the government officials and all," said a newspaper stand attendant, Silvio Colli. "I feel rage, disgust, grief, hate."

Among other stories in the newspapers and broadcast news bulletins were:

— Giuseppe Zamberletti, the government's special commissioner for earthquake relief, told an interviewer that he feels like a French soldier fighting "an impossible war" in Indochina. He said political division and attempts to fix blame for inefficient relief operation were severely undercutting his effort.

— More than 10 years after a bomb explosion in a crowded Milan bank killed 16 persons and injured more than 100, an appeals trial was still continuing convicted right-wing terrorists denying the charge. Little progress is reported in the hunt for the perpetrators of the Aug. 2 bombing at the Bologna railroad station which killed 82 persons.

— Industry minister Antonio Bisaglia has submitted his resignation following accusations that he was involved in the unfolding petroleum tax evasion scandal which reportedly has cost the government more than \$2 billion in lost revenues. Bisaglia, a Christian Democrat, denied the charge but said the pressure was making him unable to perform his government duties.

— The price of gasoline was increased from \$3.44 a gallon to \$3.77 a gallon to raise funds for earthquake relief, adding to the burden of

an annual inflation running at 22 per cent. The price of gasoline has gone up 30 per cent this year in Italy.

The Center for Social Studies and Investment (CENSIS), a partly government-financed research institute, says in its latest report that "the fracture between society on one side and institutions and politics on the other has dramatically worsened."

Nevertheless, Italian society has "responded to the 12-month tempest by relying on its flexibility and resiliency," the report says, adding that, despite inflation, the economy has expanded, savings and investments are on the rise. In short, at least from an economic standpoint, Italy is not "in the dark tunnel of crisis."

"I feel the economic pinch, and it's been bad this year, but I'll buy the argument that it's the same all over the world," says Giancarlo Greco, who books concerts for musicians, "what really bothers me is the feeling that there seems to be limit to the kind of ugly things some of our countrymen can do to others."

He said he was "profoundly shaken" by reports of profiteering and looting in the process of the earthquake relief.

"Watching soccer on Sundays is not the same any more, there's no longer that sense of pure fun," he said, referring to the soccer scandal that rocked the Italian sports world this year. Top soccer players and managers were suspended on charges of being involved in a scheme of fixed games allegedly instigated by underworld figures. A criminal trial is now under way.

## Balloonists plan global odyssey

ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico Dec. 17 (AP) — Record-setting balloonist Maxie Anderson said Tuesday he and co-pilot Don Ida will attempt an around-the-world flight next year in a helium-filled balloon, the *Jules Verne*.

"We will attempt to circle the globe non-stop, but we'll complete the voyage even if forced to land a time or two," Anderson said. "Regardless, it should be the longest, fastest, highest balloon flight ever and an adventure worthy of Jules Verne himself."

Anderson, of Albuquerque, and Ida, of Denver, Colorado, said during a news conference that they plan to launch the balloon — named after the science fiction writer — from Egypt in February or March. Anderson said the flight should cost about \$200,000.

The balloon will fly in the jet stream at altitudes of 7,500 to 9,000 meters, reaching speeds up to 240 kph. Average speeds could exceed 160 kph, permitting the balloon to cover 32,000 kms or more in eight to 10 days.

At launch, the balloon will measure about 33 meters and 24 meters in diameter. The balloonists will ride in an unpressurized gondola, 4.2 meters long and 3 meters wide, that is designed to remain upright and afloat if the balloon should be forced down at sea. Sufficient food and water will be aboard to last the balloonists 20 days.

Anderson, 46, was one of three men who completed the first trans-Atlantic balloon crossing in 1978. He and son Kris made the first non-stop balloon trip across North America earlier this year.

## 4,000 frogs keep Hollywood studio hopping

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 17 (LAT) — This is a true story about frogs and crickets and Hollywood. It gets a little complicated, so the best place to start is at the beginning.

MGM is filming the movie of John Steinbeck's *Cannery Row* on its Hollywood lot. In the movie is scene about frog-catching, which of course requires frogs.

Now, finding frogs is not as simple as it might sound. The drought in California pretty much knocked out the frog population. The same was true for Mexico. After checking around, MGM finally found some Wisconsin grass frogs, which the studio rented for \$2 apiece. The studio also rented a few bullfrogs, which rent for \$4 apiece, for extreme close-ups.

So more than 4,000 frogs were air ex-

pressed here and placed in two holding pens on the film lot. But then, one of the pens sprung a leak and when the frog "wranglers" arrived early in the morning, they found about 600 of their wards hopping all over the place.

A frog roundup ensued. MGM spokesman Leo Janos described the scene as "three guys in rubber boots and nets running all over the place. No two frogs go in the same direction."

It wasn't much of a big deal, except that the breakout delayed the frog-catching scene four days. Enter the local humane society, which has a representative on movie sets when animals are used. The humane society representative said the frogs had to be fed.

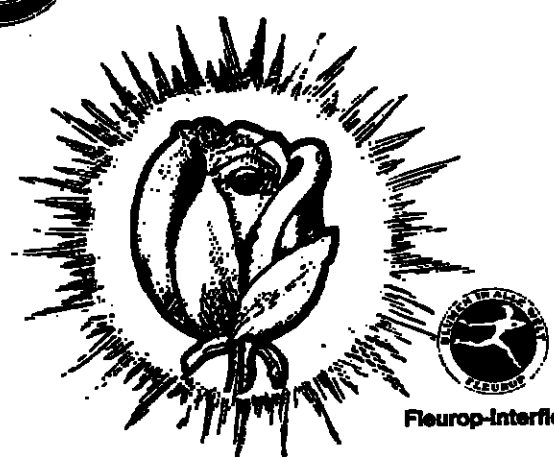
"The guy says these frogs have to be fed, so

the wranglers put out urgent calls for 10,000 crickets," Janos said. "They found a cricket wholesaler in Los Angeles County that had enough." Janos learned from this experience that there are five cricket wholesalers in the Los Angeles area. The 10,000 crickets came to roughly two apiece for the frogs, which the wranglers told Janos would be just about right.

"I want them to eat light," a wrangler told Janos. "They've got to work Monday."

After the great frog escape, there were rumors the studio might have left them go as a publicity gimmick, rumors to which Janos took exception: "Who would think this up? What price for a story? I'm just sick of frogs."

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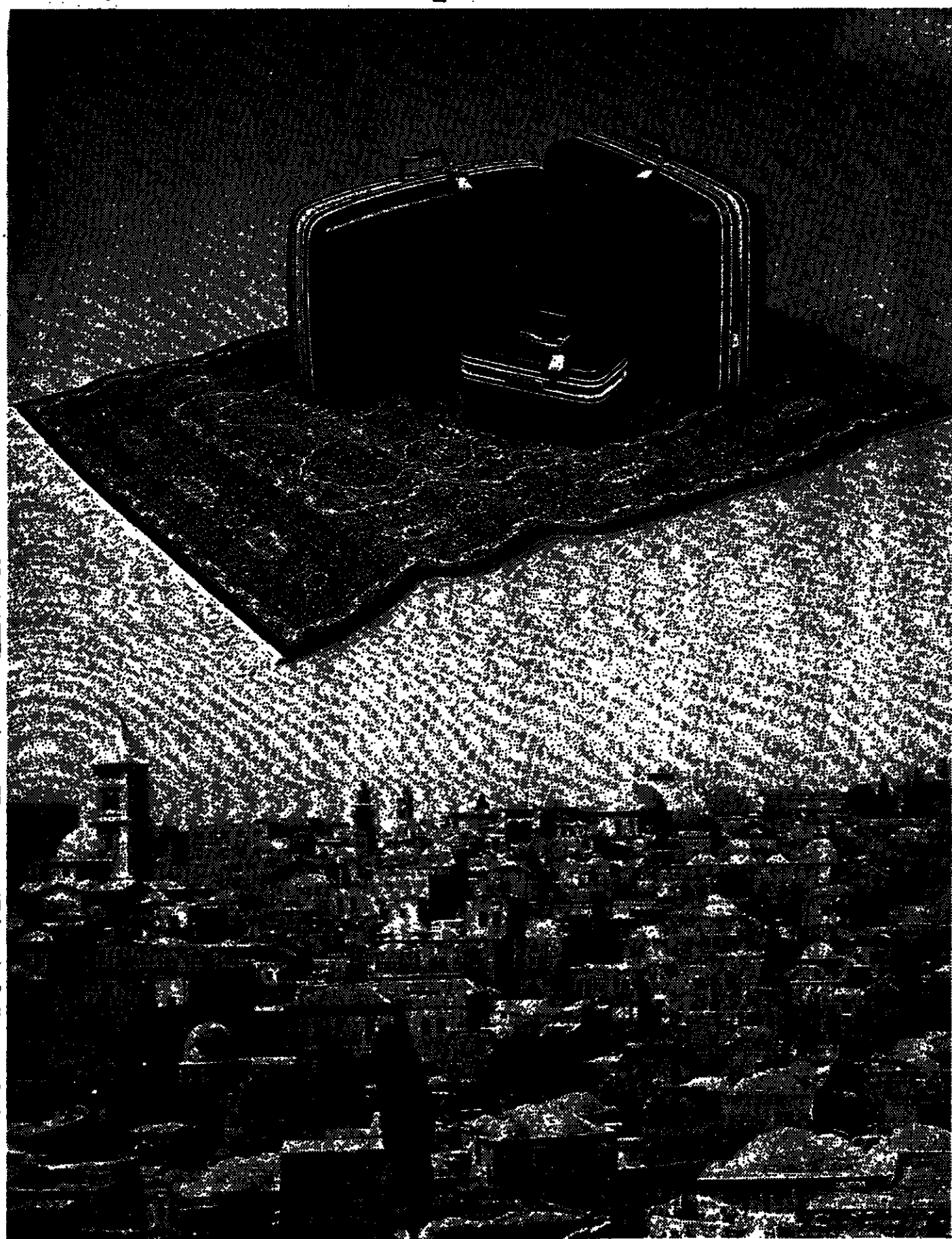


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# EEC disagrees over fishing

BRUSSELS, Dec. 17 (R) — European Common Market Countries were deadlocked over fishing policies Tuesday night despite two days of bargaining and delegates said there was a long way to go before agreement was reached on the key issues of fishing quotas and access rights. After a meeting finishing past midnight, fisheries ministers consulted with the European Economic Community (EEC) commission in an effort to break the deadlock.

French Transport Minister Daniel Hoeffel said West Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands did not support latest compromise proposals on quotas put forward Tuesday night. British Fisheries Minister Peter Walker said he was still fighting to retain exclusive fishing rights for British fleets within a 12-mile from British shores. Meanwhile, EEC will probably approve

next month an increase in General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) customs duties on Tapioca in order to get Thailand to restrict its exports to the "nine," it was learned here Tuesday. The news filtered out after the meeting of the council of ministers.

Thailand is prepared to restrict to about 5,000,000 tons annually for the next six years its exports of Tapioca to the EEC if the latter will agree to increase the customs duties on this commodity in the GATT area. Bangkok in fact fears that small suppliers of Tapioca, such as Brazil, India or Indonesia, will finally deliver to the "nine" the quantities which Thailand would pledge to selling longer to the Common Market.

Most of the "nine" and the European commission in Brussels are in favor of raising the duties. But West Germany would prefer the conclusion of self-restraint agreements with the other countries.

## Japan absorbs increases of OPEC prices

TOKYO, Dec. 17 (R) — The Japanese economy should be able to shrug off the effects of the latest OPEC oil price increases of about 10 per cent without fresh measures to curb inflation, chief cabinet secretary Kiichi Miyazawa said Wednesday. He told a press conference the higher prices would not affect to any great degree next year's budget and economic forecast currently being compiled by the government.

The government had no plans for fresh measures to fight inflation, now running at an annual rate of about eight per cent, because the country has ample kerosene supplies to cover the winter, he added.

Miyazawa's views were echoed by industry sources, who said the higher oil prices would probably be absorbed in Japan because of progress on conservation, a possible yen appreciation against the dollar and an increased inflow of petrodollars into the country.

### Foreign Exchange Rates

Quoted at 6:00 P.M. Wednesday

	SAMA	Cash	Transfer
Bahraini Dinar	—	8.86	8.85
Belgian Franc (1,000)	102.00	—	—
Canadian Dollar	2.75	—	—
Deutsche Mark (100)	165.00	170.00	166.70
Dutch Guilder (100)	152.00	—	153.40
Egyptian Pound	—	4.40	4.45
Emirates Dirham (100)	—	91.00	90.90
French Franc (100)	71.00	73.50	71.85
Greek Drachma (1,000)	—	75.00	—
Indian Rupee (100)	—	—	41.95
Iranian Rial (100)	—	—	—
Iraqi Dinar	—	9.50	—
Italian Lira (10,000)	35.00	36.40	35.40
Japanese Yen (1,000)	15.90	—	16.25
Jordanian Dinar	—	10.86	10.73
Kuwaiti Dinar	—	12.25	12.24
Lebanese Lira (100)	—	90.80	89.35
Moroccan Dirham (100)	—	83.00	81.70
Pakistani Rupee (100)	—	—	33.70
Philippines Peso (100)	—	—	44.50
Pound Sterling	7.71	7.85	7.74
Qatari Rial (100)	—	91.75	91.70
Singapore Dollar	—	—	1.58
Spanish Peso (1,000)	—	44.50	45.75
Swiss Franc (100)	182.00	190.00	184.00
Syrian Lira (100)	—	77.00	85.50
Turkish Lira (1,000)	—	44.00	—
U.S. Dollar	3.33	3.33	3.325
Yemeni Rial (100)	—	73.00	72.90
Gold kg	—	61,500.00	—
10 Tola bar	—	7,180.00	—
Silver kg	—	—	—

Cash and Transfer rates supplied by Al-Rajhi Company for Currency Exchange and Commerce, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Tel: 23815.

## Saudi Arabian Government Tenders

Authority	Description	No. of Tender	Price SR	Closing Date
University of Petroleum and Minerals, Dhahran	Installation of equipment and machinery in the Department of Electronic Sciences	—	300	Jan. 4
Department of Water and Sewage, Eastern Province	Barbed wire fencing around the drainage water treatment reservoirs in Dammam and Al-Khobar	14-400-401	700	Dec. 30
" " "	Fencing of the Department's lands in Dammam	16-400-401	1000	Jan. 6
Directorate General of Education, Eastern Province	Supply of various types of vehicles	24	Free	Dec. 27
" " "	Repairs to lavatories at Khaleel ibn Al-Waleed school in Dammam	23	Free	Dec. 20
Ministry of Communications	Preventive maintenance of Abqail/Dhahran road	—	2000	Jan. 10
" " "	Construction and paving of a 3-Km. road stretch between Al-Dhahran/Al-Ahli in Jizan district	—	2000	Jan. 5

### PORTS AUTHORITY

#### JEDDAH ISLAMIC PORT SHIP MOVEMENTS UPTO 0700 HOURS ON 17TH DECEMBER, 1980, 10TH SAFAR, 1401

Berth	Name of Vessel	Agent	Type of Cargo	Arrival Date
7.	Bailundo	Alsaada	Bagged Grain	15.12.80
16.	Eva Del Mar	H.S.S.C.	Containers	16.12.80
18.	Odysseus	Rolaco	Bulk Cement	17.12.80
19.	Tsuru Arrow	Alsaada	Bulk Cement	15.12.80
21.	Barber Priam	Barber	Containers/Gen./Tiles	15.12.80
24.	Pasadena	Star	Reefer	"
40.	Neugraben	S.N.L.	General/Contra.	16.12.80

#### 2. RECENT ARRIVALS:

Hal	Attar	To Load Empty Contra.	16.12.80
Neugraben	S.N.L.	Gen./Contra.	"
Hardley Ace	A.E.T.	Vehicles	"
Eva Del Mar	H.S.S.C.	Containers	"

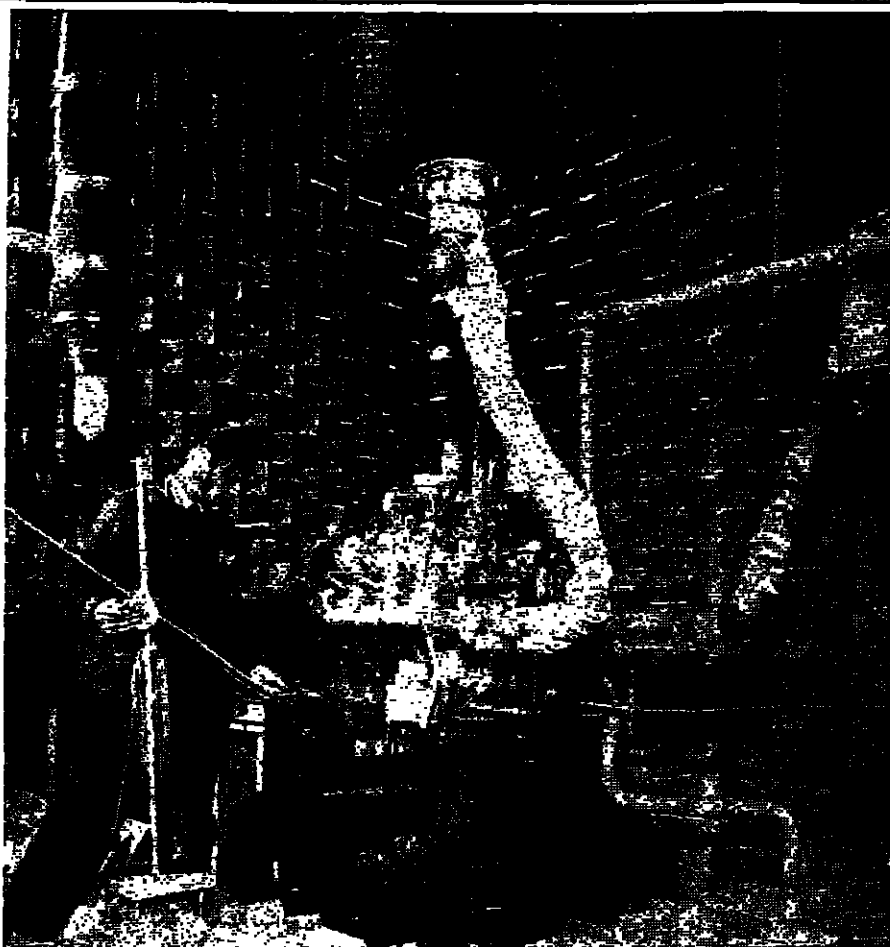
#### 3. VESSELS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE WITHIN THE NEXT 24 HOURS:

Obostain	Kanoo	General/To Load Empty Contra.	17.12.80
Toti 'B'	Feyez	General	"
Saudi Prince	O.Trade	1 Used Tug	"
Maldiva Novel	O.Trade	Rica/Sorghum/ Timber/Gen.	"
Junior	Kanoo	Rebar	"
Theese	Sindi	Govt. Cargo	"
eddah Crown	A.E.T.	Containers	"
Kasuga Maru	Alireza	Containers	"
Kasuga Maru	Alireza	Containers	"
Kawachi Maru	Alireza	Containers	"
Pioneer Runner	Alireza	Containers	"

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SHIP MOVEMENTS UPTO 0700 HRS ON  
10.2.1401/17.12.1980 CHANGES PAST 24 HRS.

2.	Asia Hope	Gulf	General	16.12.80
9.	Ioannismartinos	Kanoo	Contra/Rice	12.12.80
14.	Daru	Orr	General	14.12.80
17.	Pinelopi	Kanoo	Timber	16.12.80
30.	Pase Wain	UEP	General/Contra.	14.12.80
31.	Hemlock	UEP	Rice/General	12.12.80
36.	Pesare Flag	SMC	Cement Silo Vessel	28.10.80
37.	Pacific Exporter(D.B.)	Alireza	Bulk Cement	12.12.80



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## West Germany approves 2.2% increase in defense spending

BONN, Dec. 17 (R) — The West German cabinet has approved a 2.2 per cent increase in defense spending in real terms next year, bigger than first planned but less than NATO's target of a three per cent rise, informed sources said Wednesday. The cabinet Tuesday night endorsed plans for a 4.2 per cent overall increase in government expenditure but modified the budget structure to make an extra \$350 million available for defense, the sources said.

A government spokesman refused to confirm the figures but Finance Minister Hans Matthoefer was due to present the budget proposals at a press conference later Wednesday. The sources said Defense Minister Hans Apel demanded an extra \$750 million increase during the eight-hour cabinet session in order to meet Bonn's NATO commitment.

Matthoefer's first draft allowed for only a 0.4 per cent increase in military spending if anticipated inflation of four per cent was

taken into account.

The defense ministry sought the extra money partly to cover \$650 million increase in costs on the Tornado fighter plane due to inflation and faulty forecasts. The United States has put pressure on West Germany, as NATO's wealthiest European member, to set the example by achieving the three per cent target.

Chancellor Helmut Schmidt has said repeatedly his country will meet its commitments by the end of 1981, hinting that a supplementary defense budget might be introduced in the new year.

Bonn supported a NATO communique last week reaffirming the three per cent target and adding that more money might become necessary in the light of East-West developments. It was not immediately clear which budget items were pruned to allow the extra defense increase but the sources said the cabinet retained the \$112 billion overall spending ceiling proposed by Matthoefer.

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## Reagan expected to fight stagnant economy, inflation

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (R) — President-elect Ronald Reagan now seems likely to face both a stagnant economy and persistent inflation when he takes office Jan. 20. The leading U.S. banks announced Tuesday that they were raising the prime lending rate charged to their most creditworthy customers to an unprecedented 21 per cent.

At the same time, the government

reported that housing construction and U.S. industrial production as a whole had slumped in the month of November. Reagan, speaking to reporters in California, said the latest interest rate increase showed how ill the U.S. economy had become. "It's going to be a problem that has to be faced," he said. "I think it's just a symptom of the economic sickness this country has."

Asked how he would deal with the problem, he said: "You'll find out." U.S. interest rates have been climbing steadily in response to efforts by the Federal Reserve Board, the U.S. Central Bank, to cut inflation by restricting the money supply.

Earlier this month the Reserve Board raised the rate charged member banks for borrowing reserves from 12 to 13 per cent. One victim of the high interest rates has been the housing industry because it now costs so much to borrow money to buy a home.

The Commerce Department said that construction begun on new houses fell by 0.4 per cent in November to an annual rate of 1.55 million units, the first drop in six months. The Federal Reserve reported that U.S. industry increased its output in November by a disappointing 1.4 per cent, below the 21.8 per cent rise registered in October.

It added that industrial production was likely to drop further because industry schedules were being cut back partly in response to the high interest rates.

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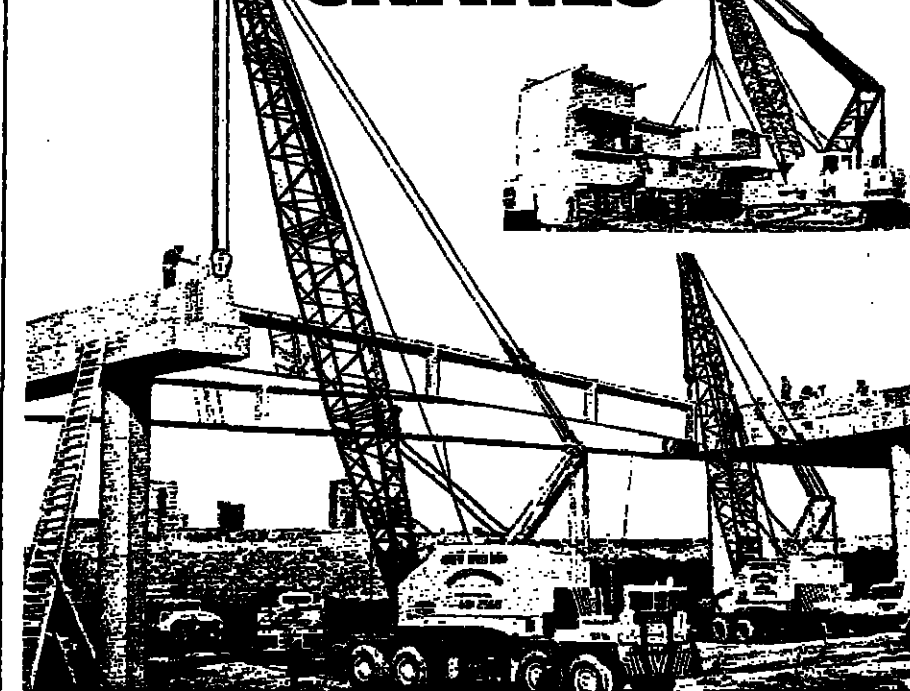
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**BHUTAN** : known as the Land of the Thunder Dragon, this tiny mountain kingdom lies between Tibet and India. Its remoteness has made it unique, as William Jenkins' photographs show.

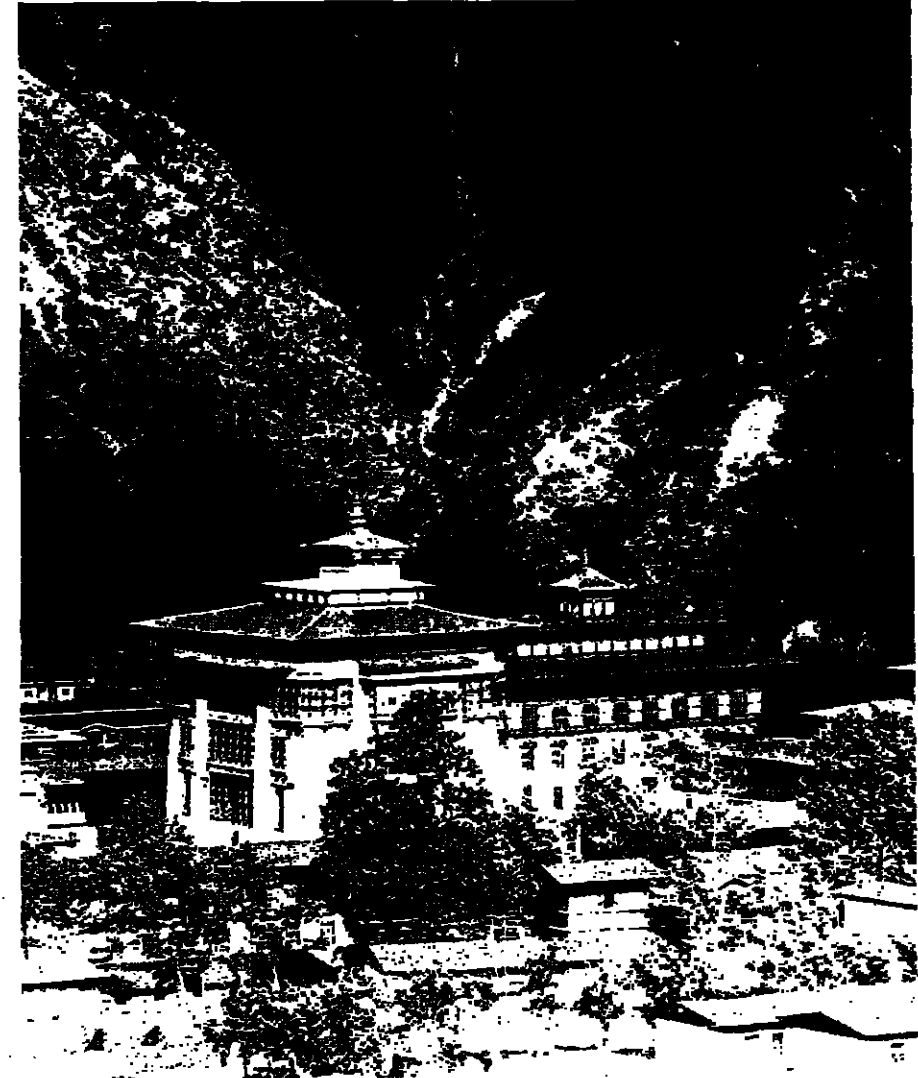


**DRUMMERS** : drums and cymbals are a part of every festival

**KING** : Jigme Singye Wangchuk on his coronation day at the age of sixteen



**SOLDIERS** : members of the Royal Guard at rest



**CAPITAL** : the government palace in Thimphu, a city of 20,000 inhabitants



**CORONATION** : water-carriers take part in the ceremony

**ARCHERY** : the Bhutanese national sport



**DRESS** : traditional costume is compulsory in the capital city



**SHOPS** : little bigger than doll's houses in the capital, Thimphu



**SCHOOLBOY** : most children are taught in *dzongka*, the traditional Bhutanese language

## With 14 point finish

## Erving helps Philadelphia edge Pacers

NEW YORK, Dec. 17 (AP) — The Indiana Pacers were coasting along with a 13-point lead over the powerful Philadelphia 76ers Tuesday night when forward Mike Bantom made a big mistake: he got Julius Erving angry.

"You don't want to get guys like the Doc upset," observed Billy Cunningham, coach of the Philadelphia 76ers, "because they just take it upon themselves to win the game."

And when Erving — alias Dr. J, or the Doc — asks for the basketball, anyone with any sense gives it to him. The Sixers did just that and Erving responded with 14 points in the final six minutes as Philadelphia outscored Indiana 22-7 to pull out a 109-107 victory.

It was the seventh consecutive victory for the Sixers, whose 30-4 record is the best in the National Basketball Association.

In other games, the Atlanta Hawks breezed to a 131-114 victory over the New Jersey Nets, the New York Knicks beat the Utah Jazz 112-97, the Chicago Bulls edged the Washington Bullets 96-94, the San

Antonio Spurs defeated the Dallas Mavericks 89-83, the San Diego Clippers tonked the Los Angeles Lakers 97-92 and the Kansas City Kings outscored the Denver Nuggets 133-118.

Hawks 131, Nets 114: Atlanta scored a season-high 45 points in the first quarter, including 16 by John Drew, and coasted to its fifth straight victory.

New Jersey, losing for the fifth time in a row despite a career-high 28 points by rookie guard Darvin Cook, trailed 45-18 after the first 12 minutes and came no closer than 11 points after that.

Knicks 112, Jazz 97: Bill Cartwright and Campy Russell scored 22 points apiece and five other New York players scored in double figures as the Knicks handed Utah its sixth straight defeat. Jazz forward Adrian Dantley, the NBA scoring leader with a 32.1 average, led all scorers with 36.

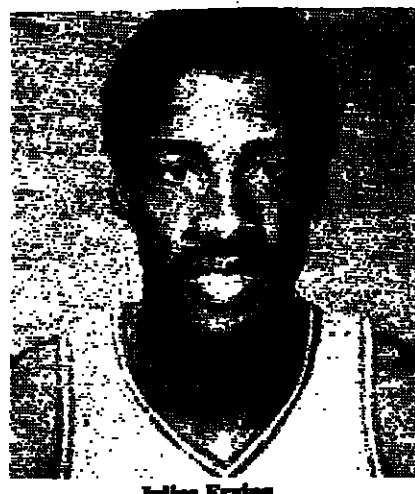
Bulls 96, Bullets 94: guard Reggie Theus grabbed the rebound of a missed shot by backcourtmate Ricky Sobers and sank the

winning field goal for Chicago with two seconds remaining. Theus led the Bulls with 23 points.

Spurs 89, Mavericks 83: San Antonio squandered an early 16-point advantage and a 14-2 Dallas spurt gave the Mavericks a 77-76 lead before guards George Gervin and James Silas combined for 10 straight points to put the Spurs back in front. Gervin, the three-time NBA scoring champion, finished with a game-high 27 points.

Clippers 97, Lakers 92: center Swen Nater's 22 points and 14 rebounds helped San Diego snap the Lakers' five-game winning streak despite 32 points by Lakers pivotman Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, who made 15 of 18 field goal attempts.

Kings 133, Nuggets 118: Kansas City's guards dominated Denver as Otis Birdsong scored 36 points and Phil Ford added 30 points and 16 assists. The Kings led by just three going into the final period but pulled away thanks to a blistering fast break keyed by Ford.



Julius Erving

## Kempes leads Valencia bid

VALENCIA, Spain, Dec. 17 (R) — Argentine World Cup star Mario Kempes will spearhead Spanish club Valencia's efforts to pry the European "super cup" from holders Nottingham Forest when the two teams meet in the second leg match here Wednesday.

Holding a slender 2-1 lead from the first leg of this annual encounter between the victors of the European Cup and the European Cup-Winners' Cup, Forest will approach the match with some trepidation.

But the English club are past masters at holding on to narrow leads away from home.

With experienced players like Scottish international Ken Burns and ex-Liverpool star Larry Lloyd marshalling a defence boosted by Peter Shilton, one of the world's best goalkeepers, the European Cup-Holders will be a tough nut to crack.

Also, England international striker Trevor Francis will make his long awaited soccer comeback when he leads the Nottingham Forest attack.

Francis, who was the subject of Britain's first one million sterling (£2.3 million dollars) transfer, severed the Achilles tendon of his right ankle in a league match against Crystal Palace just over seven months ago.

But he has played seven reserve games recently, scoring nine goals, and Clough said Tuesday, "Francis is going back in at the deep end. This is the big match, the big occasion. If he survives, and I think he will, then it's back to league football again."

Some of Europe's best teams, including Ajax of Amsterdam, Hamburg, Barcelona and Liverpool (on more than one occasion) have found Forest too much for them.

But Forest can be brought down. Watford of the English second division earlier this season thrashed them 4-1 in a League Cup tie and Bulgarian champions CSKA of Sofia beat the European champions home and away in the Champions' Cup to knock them out of this season's competition.

Valencia, holders of the Cup-Winners' Cup, also suffered a shock in an early round of that competition this season when they were beaten by Karl Zeiss Jena of East Germany 3-2 on aggregate.

## Form new opening pair

## Chauhan joins Gavaskar

SYDNEY, Dec. 17 (AP) — Tough Indian opener Chetan Chauhan will partner his skipper Sunil Gavaskar in the Benson and Hedges cup clash with Australia at the Sydney Cricket Ground here Thursday.

India will blood their test opening pair on the SCG strip against Dennis Lillee and Len Pascoe in preparation for the first test commencing January 2.

Chauhan didn't play in the Melbourne one day cup clash and the doughty fighter has the reputation of wearing down the most hostile of opening attacks.

Team manager Wing Commander Shahid Durrani said "Chetan Chauhan and Gavaskar are our two most successful openers on the international scene and should give us a good start."

Kapil Dev, the main weapon in the Indian pace armoury, had several wickets with the white ball but didn't work up a sweat.

But the athletically built, 21 year old moved the ball of a length often enough to show glimpses of the talent which has earned him 100 test wickets.

The man who stepped into Bishen Bedi's shoes, left arm spinner Dilip Doshi, plugged away in the nets with tempting flight and direction.

At 33, and only a few months younger than Chauhan, Doshi made a late entry onto the first class scene but has been conditioned by English county cricket and already has the scalps of Greg Chappell, Allan Border and Doug Walters from the Melbourne encounter.

The Indians have great depth on the bat-

ting lineup and bat down to at least number eight.

But the nagging, unsaid, problem is the total lack of any experience under lights.

The only player to have any experience of that is skipper Gavaskar.

## Faqih defies West Indies

By Shahid Orakzai  
Special Correspondent

BAHAWALPUR, Pakistan, Dec. 17 — A splendid 78 by Ejaz Faqih, 6th in batting order, helped the combined eleven to escape the embarrassment of follow-on in their 3-day match against West Indies which was almost written off as a draw.

The Windies after a solid 380 for five declared their first innings and were able to snatch 7 wickets by the stumps on the second day for only 163 runs. The combined eleven needed 68 more to escape follow on which they saved just by two runs ending their innings at 232.

Faqih, unbeaten 35 overnight, batted with authority and executed forceful shots to lead the rearguard action with Naeem Ahmed and Dara Bashir. Reaching fence 14 times Faqih accomplished but their innings ended just after the danger was averted as Joel Garner yorked Faqih.

## Expectations proven too high as 1980 closes

NEW YORK, Dec. 17 (AP) — It had the expectations of a banner year for track and field, but 1980 ended with some disappointments. It was an Olympic year, but the games were tarnished by the absence of many boycotting nations and by controversial officiating by Russian judges.

It was a year in which Britons Sebastian Coe and Steve Ovett, the world's best middle-distance runners, finally met head-to-head twice — but the races were anticlimactic and the results were indecisive.

It was a year in which it appeared that open competition would make a strong breakthrough with lucrative cash prizes for the top finishers in long-distance races, but the idea did not materialize.

It was a year in which Finland's lasse Viren attempted to become perhaps the greatest

long-distance runner in Olympic history by winning two gold medals for the third consecutive time, but the flying Finn failed to win even a medal, never mind a gold.

It was a year in which another double gold medalist from the 1976 olympics, Alberto Juantorena of Cuba, also failed to repeat in the summer games.

It was a year in which Irena Szewinska of Poland, the outstanding women's track and field performer in Olympic history, was unable to extend her medal streak to five consecutive games.

Still, the year produced some notable results, including 44 world records, equally divided with 22 for men and 22 for women.

The top record-breakers were Ovett, Coe, Americans Edwin Moses and Mary Decker, Poland's Wladyslaw Kozakiewicz, East

Germany's Gerd Wessig, West Germany's Guido Kratschmer, Russia's Nadyezhda Tkachenko and Norway's Grete Waitz.

There were distinguished performances by Ethiopia's Miruts Yifter, Scotland's Allan Wells, East Germans Waldemar Cierpinski and Irena Dombrowski, Italy's Pietro Mennea, Britain's Daley Thompson, and Americans Bill Rodgers, Alberto Salazar and Craig Virgin.

The summer olympics, staged in a communist country for the first time, were dominated by the Russians, especially in track and field, where the host country accumulated 41 medals, including 15 golds.

The results delighted the capacity crowds of some 100,000 who jammed Lenin Stadium for the eight days of competition.

The officiating by the Soviet judges came under much worldwide criticism. The international Amateur Athletic Federation, the governing body of the sport, had left the on-field officiating strictly up to Russian judges for the first and there were many disputed decisions.

After the controversial calls gave the Russians gold medals in the men's discus, the javelin and the triple jump, the IAAF put its red-jacketed jury of appeals onto the field, as it had for all previous Olympic games.

Meanwhile, the heralded confrontations in the 800- and 1,500-meter races between Coe and Ovett drew most of the attention. The two had not met in two years, and were reported bitter rivals, although both said their personal differences were widely exaggerated.

required sting to beat Meer many a time. Saeed broke Nastase's serve three times in the first set but failed to maintain the form in subsequent sets. He twice double faulted and conceded games to Nastase who chased them and won both the sets. The Romanian also double faulted in second game but did not lose it.

In the first set Saeed Meer, holding his own services twice succeeded in breaking Nastase's serve and won the set 6-1 in just 11 minutes.

In the second set the Romanian played some beautiful crosscourt shots and made marvellous returns changing the pattern in his favour. The third set saw some long rallies and superb placing by Nastase winning it 6-4.

## Nastase wins challenge game

By Shahid Orakzai  
Special Correspondent

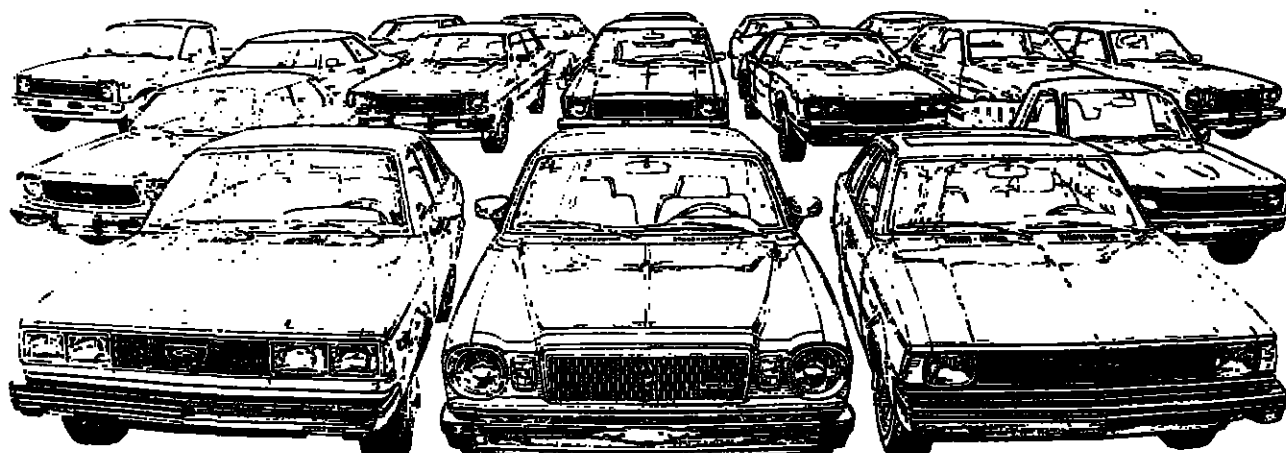
KARACHI, Dec. 17 — Ilie Nastase of Romania defeated Pakistan's Saeed Meer in a three set challenge match at KMC's cement courts Tuesday evening.

The Romanian quickly adjusted himself and judging the pace and the bounce of the cement surface recovered to a convincing victory after losing the first set 1-6.

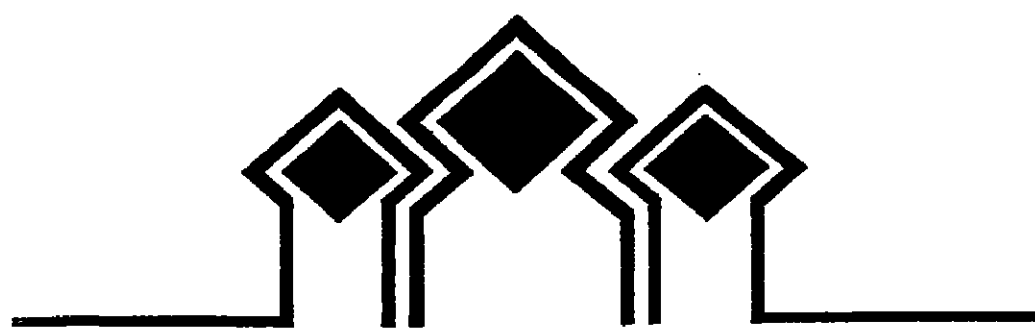
Izmir gold medalist Saeed Meer played one of the best games of his career and his fast service correctly landing found the Romanian opponent on the wrong foot.

Nastase who won 1-6, 6-3, 6-4 showed remarkable control over his shots. His service, though not very fast, did have the

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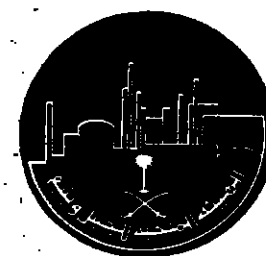
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السعودية

Despite continued illness

# Lendl punishes Casa in Sydney

SYDNEY, Dec. 17 (AFP) — Czechoslovakian, Ivan Lendl, the number two seed in Nabisco New South Wales Open tennis championships, was a young man in a try here, as he blasted his way past ace's Christopher Casa 6-1, 6-0, in a match which took less than one hour.

Lendl, 20-year-old, has had a meteoric rise two and a half years on the international circuit, to become the world's number six player. The Czechoslovakian youngster had troubles with a bout of influenza arriving in Australia last Friday. But, he certainly showed no signs of the illness Tuesday.

Lendl admitted that he is not the ideal grass court competitor and was out here primarily to learn the game. "I am always trying to get through my matches as quickly as possible because the longer you stay out on the court, the more time you have to cause an injury or let your opponent start hitting the ball better than you", Lendl said.

## Downhill slope reshaped

ALPENMARKT, Austrian Alps, Dec. 17 (AFP) — Race organizers were forced to reshape the finishing straight for Wednesday's Women's World Cup Downhill after several skiers fell during Tuesday's trials.

Unluckiest of those who come to grief over a bumpy last stretch was Canadian Laurie Lamont. The 20-year-old from Inglewood, finished fifth last week at Piancavallo, located her ankle and will be forced to use crutches for a while.

## Skiing, golf survive despite recession

GRENOBLE, Dec. 17 (AFP) — The French Alps are as popular as ever for skiers year despite the combined effects of soaring hotel prices and economic recession.

World Cup favorite Marie-Therese Nadig of Switzerland was another faller, although she slipped out on the second run after posting the fastest time on the first run.

With two extra gates included to slow down the finish, Doris de Agostini of Switzerland clocked the fastest time of 1:30.5, ahead of two Austrians Lea Soelkner of (1:31.19) and Ingrid Eberley (1:30.43).

## African wins disco championship

LONDON, Dec. 17 (AFP) — A young black south African, Godfrey Raseroka, won World Disco Championship here Tuesday night.

Godfrey, who said he comes from a "fairly poor" family, trained by taking long distances through the black townships of Johannesburg.

## Soccer team to sponsor snooker tournament

LONDON, Dec. 17 (AFP) — John Courage, the Brewers, are to sponsor the first English professional snooker championships, to be played at Haden Hill Leisure Center, Sandwell, near Birmingham, from March 7 to 15.

Courage, who already have a massive link with the England Soccer team, are putting up total prize money of 43,050 pounds, with 4,000 pounds going to the eventual champion.

As well as attracting the big names of English snooker the event will also provide an opportunity for some of the lesser-known men, who will compete in a qualifying competition before the final stages are decided by the last 16.



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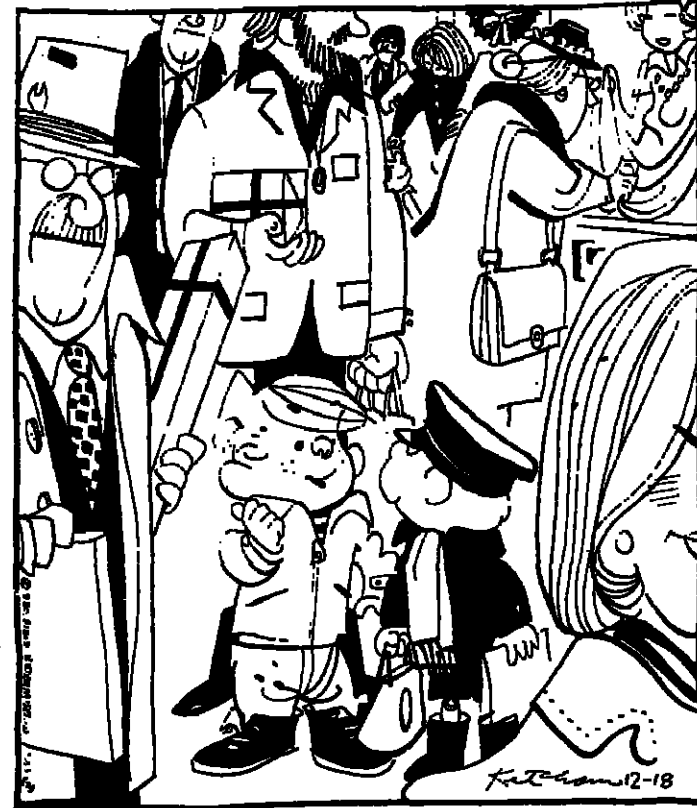
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 ♥ 8 7 2  
 ♦ A J 7 4  
 ♣ 6 3 2

**WEST**  
 ♠ 6 4  
 ♥ A K 10 9 5  
 ♦ Q 10 8 2  
 ♣ A J

**EAST**  
 ♠ 5 2  
 ♥ Q J 6 3  
 ♦ 5 3  
 ♣ K 10 8 7 5

**SOUTH**  
 ♠ A Q J 10 7 3  
 ♥ 4  
 ♦ K 9 6  
 ♣ Q 9 4

The bidding:  
 West North East South  
 1♥ Pass 2♥ 2♣  
 3♥ 3♣ Pass 4♣

Opening lead — king of hearts.

A conscientious declarer sometimes accomplishes what seems impossible. For example, take this deal where South got to four spades and West led the K-A of hearts.

Declarer ruffed, played a low trump to the eight and then, as part of his plan, ruffed dummy's last heart. Warning to his task, South led the queen of trumps and then played the king and another diamond, finessing the jack.

South next led the ace of diamonds, hoping to find the

suit divided 3-3. But East showed out and it now seemed that declarer would lose three club tricks and go down one.

However, South made the contract anyhow — as a direct result of his earlier preparations for an endplay. He trumped dummy's fourth diamond and led the four of clubs from his hand in this position:

There was now no way for the defenders to cash their three club tricks! If West won the club lead with the jack and cashed the ace of clubs, he would find himself forced to lead a heart and allow South to escape one of his natural club losers. Any other method of defense was equally sure to prove futile, and the unavoidable outcome in the diagrammed position shown was that declarer was bound to make the contract.

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Your Individual Horoscope

Frances Drake

FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1980

What kind of day will tomorrow be? To find out what the stars say, read the forecast given for your birth sign.

**ARIES** (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) ♈  
 Expenses may be high. Still, you'll make progress on the job front. Be alert for new money-making opportunities. Use initiative.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 20 to May 20) ♉  
 Make holiday plans now. You and a close tie may decide to travel together. Downplay ego if you wish rapport with others.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) ♊  
 You may wish to spend time by yourself, but close ties may take this the wrong way. Important research projects go well now.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) ♋  
 Socializing may cause you to neglect responsibilities. Get your work done, then play. A gathering could lead to a new romance.

**LEO** (July 23 to Aug. 22) ♌  
 Cut back on flamboyant tactics. The only way to get ahead now is through hard work — but it will pay off. Nix showy schemes.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) ♍  
 A relative gives you a disapproving glance, but social plans should work out well. Multiple options stem from distant interests.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) ♎  
 Don't get sidetracked by trivial interests. Now's the time to make long-range plans on security and home improvement projects.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) ♏  
 If you can keep expenses down, the way is clear for happy times with close ties. Money could be an issue. Conserve.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) ♐  
 Stick to one important task and finish it. Resist tendency to become involved in too many projects at once. Discriminate.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) ♑  
 A direct approach is best in dealing with children or romantic interests. Beating around the bush only complicates matters.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) ♒  
 Catch up with unfinished tasks around the house. Interruptions from friends likely. You'll function best in private.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19 to Mar. 20) ♓  
 Business agreements are likely to be tricky. Hold off on signing papers. Be skeptical about half-baked ideas. Friends are helpful.

Crossword by THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 41 "— John Doe" (1941 film)  
 1 Bamako is its capital  
 5 Pearl measure  
 10 All agog province  
 11 Buckingham is one  
 12 Dispense suffix  
 13 Tarzan and others  
 14 — du Diable  
 15 Title for Olivier  
 16 Strain — goat  
 17 Barroom in New Mexico  
 19 Rather  
 20 Food for an Arabian  
 21 Bulb word  
 22 London streetcar  
 24 Short letter  
 25 Exuviate  
 26 Hubbub  
 27 Side of a triangle  
 28 Upward flight  
 32 Months: Lat.  
 33 Hurry  
 34 Gavel  
 35 Stormy bird  
 37 Charter  
 38 Hash-house  
 39 Stake  
 40 Window decoration

DOWN  
 1 Panama  
 2 Tan  
 3 Sire  
 4 Bone  
 5 Spunk  
 6 Pawed  
 7 Came  
 8 Darn  
 9 Ali  
 10 Ere  
 11 Lash  
 12 London  
 13 Atease  
 14 Eure  
 15 Rennet  
 16 Sane  
 17 Glee  
 18 Sled

Yesterday's Answer  
 18 Amphibian  
 21 What Asti is noted for  
 22 Bring up — (follow)  
 23 Newport event  
 24 "I — Ike"  
 25 Inclined  
 26 Prescription word  
 28 Cohan's "Over —"  
 29 Conjecture  
 30 Strong — point  
 31 Armada  
 36 GOP member (abbr.)  
 37 Sandwich favorite

**Arab news CALENDAR**

**DHAHRAN TV**

4:30 Children's Show  
 5:22 All Star Soccer  
 6:49 News  
 7:14 Little House on the prairie  
 7:29 Last Resort  
 8:22 Channel 3 feature

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Afternoon Transmission  
 1:00 Opening  
 1:01 Holy Quran  
 1:05 Goss of Guidance  
 1:10 TM's Week's Landmark  
 1:20 Top of the Pops  
 1:30 Jani Music  
 2:20 On Islam  
 2:30 Swing Era  
 3:00 News  
 3:10 From Review  
 3:15 Music  
 3:20 Islam: The Divine Truth  
 3:30 A Selection of Music  
 3:50 Closures

Evening Transmission  
 8:00 Opening  
 8:01 Holy Quran  
 8:05 Goss of Guidance  
 8:10 Light Music  
 8:15 The Evening Show  
 8:45 Eve and Her World  
 10:00 Music  
 10:15 NEWS  
 10:25 S.A. — A Daily Chronicle  
 10:30 Islamic Worldwide  
 11:00 World Classics  
 11:15 African-American Theme  
 11:45 On Islam  
 12:00 Symphony Concert  
 12:30 Music  
 12:45 A Rastafarian with Dreams  
 01:00 Closures

**BBC**

Morning Transmission  
 8:00 World News  
 8:09 Twenty-Four Hours  
 9:00 News Summary  
 9:30 News about Britain  
 9:45 World Today  
 9:00 Newsweek  
 9:30 Opera Star  
 10:00 World News  
 10:09 Twenty-Four Hours  
 10:30 News Summary  
 10:45 Something to Show You  
 11:00 World News  
 11:09 Reflections  
 11:15 Piano Style  
 11:30 Brain of Britain 1978  
 12:00 World News  
 12:09 British Press Review  
 12:18 World Today  
 12:30 Financial News  
 12:40 Look Ahead  
 12:45 The Tony Mynz

Evening Transmission  
 1.15 Ulter in Focus  
 1.30 Discovery  
 2.00 World News  
 2.09 News about Britain  
 2.15 Alphabet of Medical  
 2.30 Sports International  
 2.40 Radio Newsworld  
 3.15 Promenade Concert  
 3.45 Sports Round-up  
 4.00 World News  
 4.09 Twenty-Four Hours  
 4:15 News Summary  
 4:30 The Pleasure's Yours  
 5:15 Report on Religion  
 5:09 World Today  
 6:15 Outlook  
 7.00 World News  
 7.09 Commentary  
 7.15 Sherlock Holmes  
 7.45 World Today  
 8.00 World News  
 8.09 Books and Writers

8.30 Take One  
 8.45 Sports Round-up  
 9.00 World News  
 9.09 News about Britain  
 9.15 Radio Newsworld  
 9.30 Evening World  
 10.00 Outlook News Summary  
 10.39 Stock Market Report  
 10.43 Look Ahead  
 10.45 Ulter in Focus  
 11.00 World News  
 11.09 Twenty-Four Hours  
 11:15 News Summary  
 12.15 Talkabout  
 12.45 Nature Notebook  
 1.00 World News  
 1.09 World Today  
 1.25 Financial News  
 1.35 Book Choice  
 1.40 Reflections  
 1.45 Sports Round-up  
 2.00 World News  
 2.09 Commentary  
 2.15 The Face of England

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7:45 Religious Program  
 8:00 News  
 8:10 Instrumental Music, 13.62 (METER)  
 4:30 Religious Program  
 4:45 Corolla (Devotional Music)  
 5:15 Drama — "Yousaf Bin Taidood"  
 Wavelengths: 16.74, 13.96, 13.79 (meter)  
 7:45 Religious Program  
 8:00 News  
 8:10 Instrumental Music  
 8:105 Pakistan is Ours  
 8:30 Commentary  
 9:00 News  
 9:25 Folk Music  
 9:35 Pakistan's Progress Path

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**CRYPTOQUOTES**

KGWGWYVK VDGH XDKZCLWNC  
 CDRFFZHI: XKGTZL ZC N  
 CMCLGW RP YBMZHI RH LDG QNM-  
 NVNUG FQNH. — RYCKBK RKZIZB  
 Yesterday's Cryptquote: IN YOUTH WE RUN INTO DIFFICULTIES; IN OLD AGE DIFFICULTIES RUN INTO US. — JOSE BILLINGS

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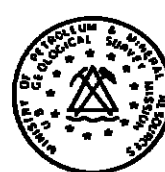
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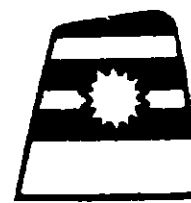
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PAGE 16

## Iran makes 'corrections' to U.S. reply on terms

TEHRAN, Dec. 17 (Agencies) — The head of the supreme court said Wednesday Iran had made some "corrections" to the latest U.S. offer on terms for releasing 52 American hostages held in this country for more than 13 months. Ayatollah Beheshti told a press conference that a U.S. proposal handed to the Iranian government on Dec. 4 could be "nearly an acceptable answer" to the conditions set by the Iranian parliament for freeing the captives.

"But there were some necessary corrections," Beheshti said. He refused to give details.

In Washington, officials in the administration of U.S. President Jimmy Carter reacted cautiously Tuesday to news from Iran that the United States need provide only "a financial

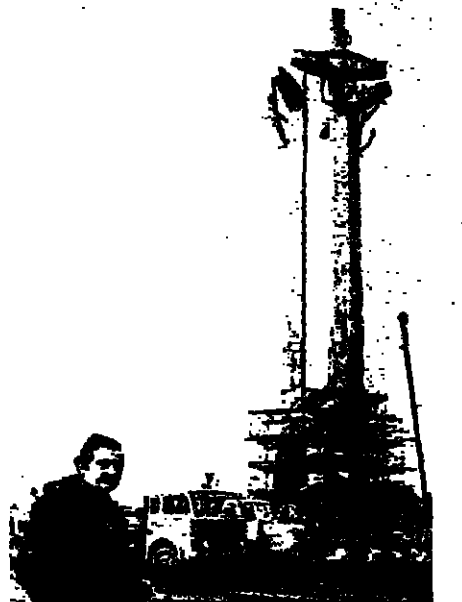
### War toys burned near Paris store

PARIS, Dec. 17 (AFP) — A dozen militants Wednesday demonstrated outside a department store against the sale to children of toy soldiers, tanks and warplanes by burning some on a bonfire.

They were led by Andre Dupont, who is standing for the presidential elections in April 1981 as an anti-nuclear candidate.

Pointing to a poster advertising a warlike doll in various postures on the battlefield, Dupont said, "Only the corpses are missing — but soon even they will be on sale, in miniature."

Eighteen deputies have already tabled a resolution in the national assembly against the sale of war toys "which stimulate children's violent instincts."



MONUMENT: Polish labor leader Lech Walasa stands by a monument in Gdansk to workers slain in food riots 10 years ago.

guarantee" to gain release of the hostages. Iran's parliament ruled on Nov. 2 that the U.S. should pledge non-interference in Iranian affairs, unblock frozen Iranian assets, drop legal claims against Iran and return the wealth of the late Shah. Since then there have been three exchanges between Washington and Tehran to the conditions, but hardly any details of the financial bargaining have been made public.

Prime Minister Muhammad Ali Rajai said Tuesday the U.S. could have the hostages back if it provided certain "financial guarantees." He said the next Iranian message would be sent soon and would be Tehran's last. Beheshti told his news conference that Iran hoped the hostage problem could be solved in the near future.

If Washington accepted the corrections, he said, "then both sides can begin the actual steps" — presumably leading up to the release of the Americans.

Responding to Rajai's statement, U.S. officials said they did not know what the guarantee might entail or whether Iran would impose other conditions. Iran's insistence on the return of the Shah's money has been a sore point with the U.S. Iran says the Pahlavi family fortune totals \$32 billion. A spokesman for the Shah's survivors has put the total at less than \$200 million. In fact, there is doubt within the U.S. administration that even that much remains in American banks. If Iran's call for a guarantee is based on \$32 billion, it could pose a big problem.



Algerian envoys wait in Tehran for Iran's reply on U.S. hostages.

### Officials attend

## Thousands mark Polish riots

GDYNIA, Poland, Dec. 17 (R) — Some 30,000 Poles gathered at dawn here Wednesday to commemorate workers killed in this Baltic port during a bloody labor revolt 10 years ago.

The ceremony, attended by representatives of the state, church and free trade union movement, was the second in a series to honor the 45 people killed and more than 1,000 injured in December 1970. The government was represented by Deputy Prime Minister Mieczyslaw Jagielski, Poland's chief strike negotiator, who signed the agreement in Gdansk last August which led to the creation of the Solidarity union.

The Baltic strikers had demanded the right to erect monuments to workers killed in the 1970 food price riots. The victims had previously been ignored by the state and honored only by dissidents.

The week of commemoration began Tuesday with the unveiling of a high monument in Gdansk at a ceremony attended by head of state Henryk Jablonski. At Wednesday's ceremony in nearby Gdynia, the mother of one of the shipyard workers killed here unveiled another monument, a four-meter high steel construction spelling out the year 1970.

Gdynia was the scene of the worst incident of the 1970 revolt in which troops opened fire on a large column of workers returning to work after a strike at the Pabis Commune Shipyard. The soldiers guarding the shipyard apparently believed the workers were going to attack them, and that was when the shooting began. According to official figures 13 people were killed and 75 seriously wounded.

A leader of the Solidarity trade union recalled the tragic events during a speech at Wednesday's ceremony which was held at 5 a.m. the same time as the shooting 10 years ago.

The speaker said that for 10 years the authorities had persistently opposed the erection of such memorials, and had only relented under the pressure of last summer's strikes in the Baltic ports. The ceremony began with the singing of the national anthem and ended with a mass and a roll call of the dead.

Bishop Zygfryd Kowalski, who said the mass and consecrated the memorial, said it would become a symbol of faith, forgiveness, solidarity and love among all those who trust in God. The mood of the ceremony was subdued and solemn and the thousands in attendance slipped away silently after it was over.

## Troops battle to stalemate in Khuzistan

BEIRUT, Dec. 17 (AP) — Iran and Iraq staked rival claims of gains in tank, paratroop and helicopter gunship combat on Wednesday but war communiques clearly showed the 87-day-old conflict on the northern flank of the Gulf had bogged down in a winter standoff.

Iraq claimed beating a tank-led Iranian assault near the key highway town of Susangerd in the southwestern oil province of Khuzistan and an enemy paratroop hit-and-fly attack in Iran's western highlands.

A communique from Baghdad claimed 34 Iranian troops were killed, six tanks destroyed and one helicopter gunship shot down in dusk-to-dawn in the two major theaters of the war. It conceded five Iraqi deaths.

Iran's official Pars news agency claimed 52 Iraqis died in both sectors of the snow-covered highlands in the western region of Gilan Gharb and in Khuzistan at the front's southern end. It conceded "three defenders" killed. Although war claims could not be independently verified, it was clear that neither side has made any ground gains into the static lines of the other.

Mideast-based Western military analysts believe the rains of Khuzistan and the snow of the Zagros mountain foothills in western Iran permit no tide-turning offensive at either end of the battlefield in the five-month winter season which began in December.

In addition to the 52 Iraqi fatalities, Pars claimed 100 enemy troops were "either killed or wounded" in the highlands of the Ilam province, just south of Gilan Gharb. The string of the strategic heights that have been the scene of intense paratroop combat in the last three weeks command the closest highway routes from western Iran to Baghdad, the Iraqi capital some 161 kilometers to the west.

Pars said Iranian paratroopers and tribesmen in Ilam and Gilan locked in hand-to-hand combat with Iraqis. The Iraqi communiques said the enemy attempted a counterattack in the western highlands and it was "quickly and effectively scuttled."

Both sides reported rocket-firing helicopter gunships raided each others' positions around the besieged Iranian oil refining city of Abadan on the eastern shore of the embattled Shat Al-Arab waterway.

The Iraqis say they have no immediate plans to enter into the beleaguered city of Abadan, whose giant oil refining complex provided 60 per cent of Iran's pre-war fuel needs. Field commanders still tell occasional visiting newsmen that they are waiting for government orders to mount the penetration assault.

Good Morning

By Jihad Khazen

N.Y.'s — the Big Apple's — great Fifth Avenue was closed for something, a demonstration or a festive procession — I did not find out for what, although I stood around with the waiting crowd. For I was distracted by a man standing there, whistling — softly to himself, and mixed with humming, both together rendering, perhaps badly but quite recognizably, an Arab tune. One I knew well.

Looking at the man, who appeared American, even ultra American, I thought there was no way he could be an Arab. Or could he? Had I at last found that legendary lost tribe of American-Arabs? And, if so, did they really look like American, and could they be called Arab in this case? But there was the man and there was his tune. Unmistakably Abdul Halim Hafiz's "Why Do You Blame Me?" Nothing to be done but approach ("Dr. Abdullah, I presume?").

It did not take me long to decide upon my mode of introduction. I stood next to him, took a lungful of air, and started whistling Hafiz's other well known tune, "Fire, Beloved, Fire." The reaction wasn't what I expected. The man looked at me in a decidedly odd way, and started to move off.

"No, one," I said, "that tune you were whistling, it's an Arab one isn't it. And the one I am whistling is also. In fact it's by the same man, Old Abdul Halim." The man's

expression changed. He couldn't believe his eyes — and ears. My rendering, if I may say so, was rather artful. "Do you know Abdul Halim? Are you an Arab? Coffee and cakes. This way, this way. Never mind about the procession."

We went to a cafe and sat talking. He was an Arab in fact. He had come there in the early sixties. Out of disillusion with Arab politics. He lived in a small village right next to Niagara Falls, and had seen no Arab since for years. His sole spiritual sustenance, he said, was the songs he knew back then. He had brought the records with him, and they were his only joy.

"And has Abdul Halim produced new songs? And Um Kalthoum? And Abdul Muttalib? Did you bring any records with you?"

"Dead," I told him, "all dead." I was sorry to say it, and I could see how badly he took this severance of his last links with his homeland. But I couldn't do anything else. Finally, I said that his sorrow, even so far away in America, was not really unique; that many, many Arabs, had now turned to that near past as something of a Golden Age. They knew it was foolish, that it was a time like any other. But the present, to put it mildly, was disappointing. Let us, I said, sit together and whistle and hum: "Why Do You Blame Me" and "Fire, Beloved, Fire," until the cows come home.

Translated from Ashraf Al Awad

## Profit-taking hurts dollar; gold higher

LONDON, Dec. 17 (AP) — Profit-taking knocked the dollar back slightly in Europe Wednesday morning, despite Tuesday's latest boost in U.S. interest rates. Gold prices rose.

"We may see a few replays on profit-taking or commercial orders here and there but basically the direction is still up," one foreign exchange dealer said of the dollar's performance.

The U.S. currency has surged in recent days on the strength of the high interest rates paid on dollar deposits. But Tuesday's hike in prime lending rates from 20 to a record 21 per cent had a mixed effect. It came on the day when the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, meeting in Bali, announced nearly a 10 per cent increase in the price of oil, although that decision had no discernible effect on money markets, dealers said.

Gold prices, which touched six-month lows last week, moved slowly higher Wednesday after closing at \$567 a troy ounce in New York late Tuesday, off \$8. In London, just before the city's five major bullion houses agreed a morning "fixing" price, gold was

trading at a median \$568.50 an ounce, up from \$558.25 at the close Tuesday.

In Zurich, gold was worth \$569.50 an ounce, up from \$563.50. Earlier in Hong Kong, gold closed at \$572.43, up \$4.40.

Silver was quoted in London at mid-morning at \$15 an ounce, up from \$14.45 on Tuesday.

In London, the pound was worth \$2.3170.

In Tokyo, the dollar closed at 209.55 yen from 209.40 Tuesday.

### Gandhi money asked

NEW DELHI, Dec. 17 (AP) — The government of India has asked for additional \$1.9 million contribution to Sir Richard Attenborough's film about the late Indian independence leader, Mohandas K. (Mahatma) Gandhi, a government official has said.

Deputy Information Minister Kunal Joshi said in a written statement submitted to the upper house of parliament that the government's contribution to the film likely would be increased "on account of certain facilities to be provided to the producer." He did not elaborate.

## Garden gushes fire as gas harries W. Virginia town

JANE LEW, West Virginia, Dec. 17 (AP) — Gas bubbles out of the faucets in James and Anna Hoover's abandoned house. A 12-meter pillar of flame dances in the yard where they once raised vegetables.

All along an (800-meter) section of Interstate 69 on the outskirts of town, natural gas is slowly seeping out of the ground, into the houses. Windows and doors are left open for fear of an explosion. Gas bubbles to the surface of a nearby creek and a sour stench clings to the browning trees and bushes.

The Hoovers were evacuated to another house in September after their water well exploded into flames that shot up 18 meters. Only a bed remains in their empty house, standing next to the front door they leave ajar.

The Hoovers' well is burning more than 2,800 cubic meters of gas a day, according to state officials, who say that 98 per cent of the leaking gas is 98 per cent highly explosive

methane. Gas is also escaping near the spot where a big highway passes over a bridge by the Hoovers' house, the officials said.

"There's going to be a tremendous explosion and a lot of people are going to be hurt," Hoover, a retired state highway worker, predicted.

Gas has started to seep into other houses, and a gas well recently exploded on the nearby farm of Jack Shock. A water well next to his house is showing signs of erupting: gas is bubbling in the water and the ground is shifting near the well.

"If it blows like Hoover's, we're gonna be gone," Shock said.

The houses stand above an underground gas storage field owned by Consolidated Gas Supply Co. The land is an old natural gas field that was pumped dry years ago. Now Consolidated stores gas underground.

Residents contend that gas pumped into the storage field under high pressure has

weakened the geological formation and is forcing its way to the surface. Most of the gas is leaking from water wells or other openings that can be controlled or plugged, but residents fear that if the pressure below ground becomes too great, the gas will burst through.

Although Consolidated moved the Hoovers and says it has spent more than \$1.6 million on the problem, its representatives have repeatedly denied the gas is from their storage field.

Spokesman David Cotten, however, said recently that the "highest probability" is that the Consolidated field is leaking, despite there being no proof such is the case.

Cotten declined to comment on residents' fears of an explosion, but said, "We're taking it very seriously. We have a concern for the people and their safety."

Geologists say that although the stored gas could be shifting under pressure, they think a more likely explanation is that it is leaking from an old well. Or, Cotten suggested, Hoover might have hit a new gas well while drilling his water well.

The flow has slackened, however, since Consolidated reduced pressure in the reservoir after water wells began to erupt, according to state oil and gas conservation commission officials.

Consolidated work crews and drilling rigs have been busy for weeks. Gardens and fields have been ripped up as old gas wells are tested for leaks and plugged. Past and present residents are being asked to remember where old gas wells stood in the area.

"We just can't go in and start punching holes in the earth," Cotten said.

The state oil and gas conservation commissioner, Thomas Huzzey, said the state "prevailed" upon Consolidated to plug the gas flow. Two inspectors are monitoring the operation, he said.

Residents are unhappy that the state has essentially left the problem in Consolidated's hands. "They're just leaving it all to a big, sophisticated company to tell them the truth," Hoover said. "It's as if I robbed a bank and they expect you to bring in the evidence to convict yourself."

Huzzey said the company is best equipped to find the source of the gas. He said the state is committed to finding the leak.

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